

CHABOT

FOR CONGRESS

November 17, 2017

Federal Election Commission
Office of Complaints Examination and Legal Administration
ATTN: Kathryn Ross, Paralegal
999 E Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20436

RE: MUR NO. 7272

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing on behalf of Congressman Steve Chabot and Chabot for Congress as its Treasurer (referred to collectively as "we") in response to MUR NO. 7272.

We have the unenviable, if not impossible, task of proving not only a negative, but also proving a negative about which no actual information or evidence has been produced by the complainant, J. Whitfield Larrabee. **Despite the lack of evidence provided in Mr. Larrabee's complaint (the "Complaint"), we have been able to uncover, contrary to Mr. Larrabee's allegations, that the contribution to Chabot for Congress in question was made at a time during which the contributor (Edward Kutler) did not represent Ukrainian interests. As detailed below, this evidence vitiates the entire Complaint as it relates to Congressman Steve Chabot and his campaign, Chabot for Congress.**

In MUR NO. 7272, Mr. Larrabee charges 24 different parties for their involvement in a vaguely-defined international conspiracy to "corrupt[] the 2014 primary and general elections, the deliberations of the United States Senate and the deliberations of the United States House of Representatives."¹ As evidence of this conspiracy, Mr. Larrabee cites fees received by numerous registered lobbyists from several Ukrainian interests, including (as it pertains to this response) the European Centre For a Modern Ukraine ("ECFMU").

Mr. Larrabee did not name Congressman Chabot nor his campaign as a party to the Complaint, nor did he provide any evidence that either were a party to this alleged conspiracy. Instead, he provided one fact (the existence of a \$500 political contribution) that he suggests alone justifies further investigation.

¹ See MUR NO. 7272, paragraph 1.

The following is the entirety of the reference to Congressman Chabot and his campaign in Mr. Larrabee's complaint:

"Federal Election Commission records show the following contribution from Kutler to Steve Chabot for Congress:

Contributor Name	Recipient	State	Employer	Receipt Date	Amount
Kutler, Edward	Steve Chabot for Congress	VA	Mercury Instruments	07/16/2014	\$500.00

"Steven Chabot is a Member of the House of Representatives from the 1st Congressional District in Ohio who also served on the House Foreign Affairs Committee in 2013 and 2014. It is likely that this contribution was made in furtherance of the lobbyists' scheme to contribute funds from the Party of Regions and the ECFMU to federal candidates. Further investigation of Steven Chabot's and Steve Chabot for Congress' involvement in this scheme is warranted."²

Again, Mr. Larrabee provides no evidence of wrongdoing on the part of Congressman Chabot or his campaign. And he doesn't really make a claim, or levy a charge. He just suggests maybe this particular contribution should be investigated.

Well, we have investigated the contribution, and here is what we've found. According to FEC records, the \$500 contribution referenced by Mr. Larrabee was made by Ed Kutler to Chabot for Congress on July 16, 2014. However, based on filings made on April 28, 2017, neither Ed Kutler nor his employer, Mercury Public Affairs, represented the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine at the time the contribution was made. According to those filings, Mercury and Kutler terminated their representation of ECFMU on May 8, 2014, more than two months before Mr. Kutler contributed to Chabot for Congress.³

Mr. Larrabee knew, or should have known, this to be true before he filed the Complaint, as he references Mercury's filings on numerous occasions.⁴ In at least two separate places on its Supplemental FARA for the Six Month Period Ending 5/8/14 (and amendment), Mercury discloses that its representation of ECFMU ended in May 2014.⁵

But, that is not all that Mr. Larrabee knew from reading Mercury's FARA filings. In those filings, which cover periods ranging from April, 2012 until May 8, 2014, over 200 contributions made by Mercury employees are listed. Additionally, nearly 50 contacts between Mercury employees or clients and Members of Congress or their staffs or committee staffs are disclosed. And yet, not one of those more than 250 separate disclosures mentions Congressman Steve Chabot or his campaign committee.⁶

² See MUR NO. 7272, paragraphs 53 and 54.

³ See Exhibit A: Mercury FARA Filings, April 28, 2017.

⁴ See MUR NO. 7272, paragraphs 26-30, 60-61.

⁵ See Exhibit A, specifically the May 8, 2014 Supplemental FARA, question 7 (page 3), and question 11 (page 10).

⁶ See Exhibit A.

Given the lack of evidence contained within the Complaint regarding Congressman Chabot and his campaign, it would certainly appear as if Mr. Larrabee is also unaware of any evidence outside of these filings directly implicating Congressman Chabot or his campaign.

If that is not enough evidence that Mr. Larrabee's reference to Congressman Chabot is baseless, Congressman Chabot's own words prove he was not a party to Mr. Larrabee's alleged international conspiracy.

To the extent that the grand conspiracy alleged by Mr. Larrabee is comprehensible from the Complaint, it appears it consisted, in Mr. Larrabee's words, of efforts by several lobbyists and lobbying firms, led by Paul J. Manafort, Jr., to provide campaign contributions to Members of Congress from foreign sources related to the Ukrainian and Russian governments. These contributions were part of a scheme to "gain positive press coverage of [former Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich and other] Ukrainian officials," "water down or defeat a resolution (H. Res. 28) under consideration in the House condemning the persecution of Yulia Tymeshenko, an opponent of Yanukovich in the 2010 Ukraine election," and to help "promote Russian interests in the former Soviet republics, to undermine anti-Russia opposition in the United States, and to benefit the [Vladimir] Putin government."⁷

While there is no earthly manner in which Congressman Chabot or his campaign can confirm or deny the existence of the alleged conspiracy, other than to say that neither he nor his campaign participated in such a conspiracy, nor do they have any knowledge or evidence to provide regarding such a scheme, Congressman Chabot has made his position regarding Yanukovich, Putin and the Russian invasion of Ukraine crystal clear.

Specifically, Congressman Chabot maintains a political blog on his campaign website, and we have attached several entries that reference Ukraine, Putin and the Russian invasion of Crimea.⁸

On at least two separate occasions on his campaign blog alone, Congressman Chabot referred to Vladimir Putin as a "thug."⁹ Additionally, in that same forum, he publicly advised President Trump to pressure Putin to exit Crimea on at least two occasions.¹⁰

He also dedicated an entire blog entry to the efforts of Putin to "bully" former Soviet republics and repeatedly criticized Putin's aggression towards those countries.¹¹

Regarding Mr. Yanukovich, Congressman Chabot referred to him as "particularly corrupt," charged that he "had his opponent [Yulia Tymeshenko] in the presidential election imprisoned on trumped-up charges," and that he ordered his "thugs" to "viciously attack[] and beat[] peaceful protestors."¹²

All of these blog entries are readily available on Congressman Chabot's campaign page (www.stevechabot.com), which is the fourth website that appears when "Steve Chabot" is googled.

⁷ See MUR NO. 7272, paragraphs 38, 40 and 43.

⁸ See Exhibit B: Chabot Campaign Blog Entries.

⁹ See Exhibit B, specifically blogs dated 1/18/17 and 3/8/17.

¹⁰ See Exhibit B, specifically blogs dated 1/18/17 and 7/5/17.

¹¹ See Exhibit B, specifically blogs dated 5/21/14, 7/23/14, 8/27/14, 9/24/14, 1/13/16, 4/20/17, and 8/17/16.

¹² See Exhibit B, specifically blog dated 5/21/14.

But, maybe Mr. Larrabee is simply unaware of how Google works. By simply "googling" his name (J. Whitfield Larrabee), here is what we found.

In the past 18 months in addition to MUR NO. 7272, Mr. Larrabee has filed numerous complaints against Republicans, including: an ethics complaint in Florida against then-candidate Donald Trump and Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi (which was dismissed for lack of evidence); complaints with the IRS against Trump and Paul Manafort; a request that a federal criminal investigation be launched against Attorney General Jeff Sessions; and bar association complaints against Sessions, Manafort, and former White House Chief of Staff Reince Priebus in Alabama, Connecticut and Wisconsin respectively.¹³

On his Twitter feed (@jwlarrabee), Mr. Larrabee regularly rants against Republicans, particularly those in the Trump Administration, and praises Democratic initiatives, such as Senator Bernie Sanders' Medicare for All Plan and the "Resistance" movement. More significantly, he actively promotes the media coverage of the many complaints he has filed. In fact, the more you read his Twitter account, the more it appears that the primary purpose of Mr. Larrabee's multitude of complaints is to gain earned media and tarnish the targets, rather than actually expose any wrongdoing.¹⁴

Along those same lines, in an August 22, 2016 Orlando Sentinel story about the Trump/Bondi ethics complaint, Mr. Larrabee stated: "What I'm trying to do is prevent what I see as corrupt, unprincipled, bigoted and ruthless individuals from gaining or holding onto political power."¹⁵ In other words, he is trying to influence elections.

And then, shortly after the election on November 9, 2016, Mr. Larrabee stated on Twitter: "Thanks to Donald Trump, I'll be getting much more active over the next four years. I feel a greater sense of purpose ... Our enemies are often our greatest friends. I'm going to be more motivated to act in light of Trump's election." Then, he added: "Victory is often just around the corner from defeat."¹⁶

So, we have a Massachusetts lawyer, whose time is his stock and trade and for which we can assume he is compensated, spending a great deal of that valuable time attacking Republicans in an attempt to harm them publicly and (as he states in his own words) "prevent" their election. Again, in his own words, his motivation is partisan gain, and he is intensely focused on media coverage of his myriad of complaints.

From this evidence, it certainly appears as if Mr. Larrabee is engaged in electioneering activities, and those activities would appear to be designed to harm one party (the Republican National Committee) while benefitting another (the Democratic National Committee). And yet, FEC records show no evidence of payments to Mr. Larrabee, or in-kind contributions from Mr. Larrabee, for the legal services provided. In fact, the only record that appears to involve Mr. Larrabee during this time period is a \$100 contribution made on August 8, 2016 from Mr. Larrabee to ActBlue, but earmarked for the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (the "DCCC"). This is in addition to a direct contribution from Mr. Larrabee to the DCCC on October 20, 2006.¹⁷

¹³ See Exhibit C: Other Larrabee Complaints Filed.

¹⁴ See Exhibit D: J. Whitfield Larrabee Tweets.

¹⁵ See Exhibit C, specifically the Orlando Sentinel story dated 8/2/16.

¹⁶ See Exhibit D, specifically the tweets dated 11/9/16.

¹⁷ See Exhibit E: J. Whitfield Larrabee's Contributions to the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee.

It is conceivable that Mr. Larrabee has been acting independently of the Democratic National Committee and the DCCC. Conversely, the available evidence suggests it is equally conceivable that his efforts have been coordinated with national Democrats. Please note that, unlike Mr. Larrabee, I am providing evidence to support my claim.

The first piece of evidence to suggest possible coordination comes from the Complaint itself. In the Complaint, Mr. Larrabee cites, without outside reference, the Democratic National Committee as the source of information that legislation "opposed by Mercury" was "stalled in [Rep.] Rohrabacher's subcommittee" and that Rep. Rohrabacher spoke out against this legislation and in favor of Vladimir Putin and the Ukrainian government.¹⁸ Because Mr. Larrabee provides no independent reference for this information, we are left to assume that he received it directly from the Democratic National Committee.

While that may seem like a stretch at first, discovery of the parties that Mr. Larrabee elects to exclude from his farcical crusade provides compelling evidence for coordination between Mr. Larrabee and national Democrats.

In paragraph 58 of the Complaint, Mr. Larrabee alleges that contributions and meetings referenced in the Complaint "were part of a larger effort by partners and employees of Mercury *and the Podesta Group* to influence Members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee and the Senate Foreign Relations Committee with campaign contributions" (emphasis added).¹⁹ And yet, Mr. Larrabee did not include the Podesta Group as a party to the Complaint, nor does he provide evidence of any of their contributions. It begs the question why he chose to exclude the Podesta Group.

The most obvious reason is that the Podesta Group was founded and managed by Tony Podesta, brother of Secretary Hillary Clinton's 2016 campaign chairman, John Podesta. If, as it certainly appears from Mr. Larrabee's numerous complaints over the last year and a half, his goal is to tie President Trump's campaign to questionable practices, illustrating similar ties and practices to Secretary Clinton's campaign would significantly undermine the effectiveness of that effort.

Further, as might be expected, the activities of the Podesta Group were focused on Democrats. In the FARA Registration Statement filed by the Podesta Group on April 12, 2017 in which the Podesta Group belatedly disclosed its representation of ECFMU, there are nearly 200 congressional contacts listed in the disclosed activities performed by the Podesta Group on behalf of ECFMU.²⁰ However, in only 53 instances (of the nearly 200 contacts) did the Podesta Group reveal the name of the targeted representative or senator, with roughly three-quarters of those targets being Democrats. The greatest focus was on Senator Harry Reid (D-NV) and Senator Richard Durbin (D-IL) with nine contacts each and Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur (D-OH) with six contacts.²¹

Additionally, there are more than 50 contacts listed with the State Department, which was obviously run by the Obama Administration during the period in question. One thing that stands out in the list of the State Department contacts is a February 4, 2013 meeting with Jake Sullivan, who had been up until three days prior to that meeting Secretary Clinton's Deputy Chief of Staff (she had resigned effective February

¹⁸ See MUR NO. 7272, paragraph 41.

¹⁹ See MUR NO. 7272, paragraph 58.

²⁰ See Exhibit F: Podesta Group FARA Filings, April 12, 2017.

²¹ See Exhibit F.

1, 2013).²² Mr. Sullivan would go on to work, along with John Podesta, on Secretary Clinton's 2016 campaign, a fact most of us know, because Mr. Sullivan also became embroiled in Secretary Clinton's email scandal.

Therefore, it is highly likely that Mr. Larrabee chose to exclude the Podesta Group from the parties to the Complaint in order to spare Democrats at the highest levels, including the Democratic National Committee and the DCCC, considerable embarrassment. But, by doing so, Mr. Larrabee left an entity out that, by his own words and by numerous media reports, was involved in this alleged conspiracy at roughly the same level as Mercury Public Affairs.²³

While Mr. Larrabee's exclusion of the Podesta Group is certainly enough to raise serious questions about his motivations and his sources, what he chose to exclude from Mercury's FARA filings is even more suspicious.

As mentioned earlier, Mercury's FARA filings detail more than 250 interactions with congressional contacts, including contributions to then-Speaker John Boehner, current Speaker Paul Ryan, then-House Majority Leader Eric Cantor, current House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell.²⁴ Of those more than 250 contacts, Mr. Larrabee cherry-picked only two members of the House of Representatives, Reps. Ed Royce (R-CA) and Dana Rohrabacher (R-CA), to include as parties to the Complaint. He then adds a reference to Congressman Chabot as well, even though Congressman Chabot is not mentioned **EVER** in the FARA filings by either Mercury or the Podesta Group. It begs the question why these three were selected, particularly since one of them, Congressman Chabot, is not listed in the FARA filings at all.

Mr. Larrabee seems to suggest that the members are listed in the Complaint, because the lobbyists in question "were engaged [on behalf of ECFMU] in lobbying related to matters before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations and the House Foreign Affairs Committee."²⁵

This explanation, while plausible, is inadequate for at least two reasons. First, the vast majority of the congressional interactions (including both meetings and contributions) disclosed by Mercury on behalf of ECFMU had absolutely nothing to do with members of either foreign affairs committee.²⁶ It is, therefore, obvious that Mercury's lobbying efforts extended far beyond the House Foreign Affairs Committee. In fact, it appears as if members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee were not even the focus of Mercury's efforts on ECFMU's behalf. And so, Mr. Larrabee's decision to limit the Complaint to foreign affairs committee members is myopic, at best.

Secondly, and most importantly, Mr. Larrabee's justification wholly fails to explain the inclusion of Congressman Chabot in the Complaint. While Congressman Chabot was indeed on the House Foreign Affairs Committee in 2013 and 2014 (and still is), his absence from Mercury's FARA filings makes it clear that he was not a focus of their lobbying efforts. **Again, Congressman Chabot is not listed anywhere in Mercury's disclosures of the work they performed for ECFMU – no meetings,**

²² See Exhibit F.

²³ See Exhibit G: Media Coverage Regarding Mercury and the Podesta Group.

²⁴ See Exhibit A.

²⁵ See MUR NO. 7272, paragraph 2.

²⁶ See Exhibit A.

no contributions, NOTHING. Therefore, it can be concluded that serving on the House Foreign Affairs Committee is not the reason Congressman Chabot is mentioned in Mr. Larrabee's complaint.

If that's indeed the case, what else do Congressman Chabot and Reps. Royce and Rohrabacher have in common?

Although there are likely several things, one particular commonality stands out, given the context of the Complaint. Specifically, each of the three representatives (Chabot, Royce and Rohrabacher) are included on the DCCC's list of targeted races for the 2018 election cycle.²⁷

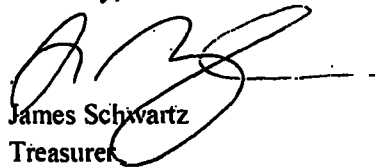
Given Mr. Larrabee's history as a Democratic activist and his repeated financial support for the DCCC (as detailed above), this seems a more likely explanation for Mr. Larrabee's selection of his targets, particularly since he went beyond the available evidence to include Congressman Chabot in a matter which does not even pertain to him.

At the end of the day, there is more evidence that Mr. Larabee is nothing more than a political operative acting in coordination with the Democratic National Committee and its affiliate, the DCCC, than there is that Congressman Chabot's campaign somehow participated in an alleged scheme to launder money from pro-Putin Ukrainian groups.

Given the evidence provided herein which demonstrates beyond any reasonable doubt that the contribution in question was not made at a time during which Edward Kutler represented ECFMU, we respectfully request that MUR NO. 7272 be dismissed, at least as it pertains to Congressman Steve Chabot and his campaign, Chabot for Congress.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



James Schwartz
Treasurer
Chabot for Congress

²⁷ See Exhibit H: DCCC Targets Press Release.

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by Kathryn Ross
Date: 2017.11.17
16:48:02 -05'00'

Exhibit A

Mercury FARA Filings, April 28, 2017

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TORONTO

April 28, 2017

Heather H. Hunt
Chief, FARA Registration Unit
600 E St NW
BICN Building - Room 1300
Washington, DC 20004

RE: Mercury Public Affairs

Dear Ms. Hunt:

Our client Mercury Public Affairs represented the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine (the "ECFMU") on United States government affairs and certain public affairs matters from 2012 to 2014. Mercury publicly disclosed its work on behalf of the ECFMU to the Secretary of the Senate and Clerk of the House pursuant to the Lobbying Disclosure Act ("LDA"). It registered effective April 18, 2012 when it commenced working for the ECFMU and filed nine quarterly LD-2 reports disclosing lobbying activity and compensation received through the second quarter of 2014, at which point its work for the ECFMU had concluded.

Although it has been suggested that Mercury's representation of the ECFMU triggered an obligation to register with this office pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act ("FARA"), both Mercury and we, as counsel, believed during the representation and continue to believe that such registration is not legally required. A person is not required to register with the Department of Justice if it represents a foreign person other than a government of a foreign country or a foreign political party, "has engaged in lobbying activities and has registered under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 in connection with the agent's representation of such person or entity." 22 U.S.C. § 613(h). As noted above, Mercury engaged in lobbying activities on behalf of the ECFMU and registered for such lobbying activity under the LDA. At the beginning of its representation, Mercury inquired with the ECFMU

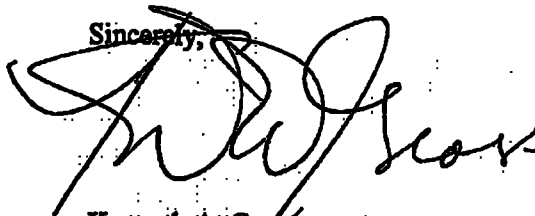
Heather H. Hunt
April 28, 2017
Page 2

whether it was directed or controlled by a foreign government or political party; the ECFMU responded with a written representation that it was not.

By regulation, the LDA exemption is not available if "a foreign government or foreign political party is the principal beneficiary." 28 C.F.R. § 5.307. However, Mercury was principally promoting the ECFMU's interest in greater ties between Ukraine and the West, rather than the interests of the Party of Regions or the Government of Ukraine, which decided against signing the Association Agreement with the European Union in 2013.

Although we do not believe it legally required, we understand reasonable people can differ in their views of who is the "principal beneficiary," a term undefined in the law, regulations and guidance. Accordingly, Mercury is voluntarily registering and submitting supplemental statements for the duration of its work on behalf of the ECFMU. Because that period dates back more than five years, and certain Mercury employees who worked on the matter are no longer with the firm, the enclosed filings are being made to the best of our knowledge based on reasonable due diligence.

Sincerely,



Kenneth A. Gross

Tyler Rosen

Counsel for Mercury

Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 04/28/2017 1:48:41 PM

OMB No. 1124-0001; Expires April 30, 2017

U.S. Department of Justice

Washington, DC 20530

Registration Statement

**Pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of
1938, as amended**

I-REGISTRANT

1. Name of Registrant

Mercury Public Affairs, LLC / dba Mercury/Clark & Weinstock

2. Registration No. (To Be Assigned By the FARA Registration Unit)

6170

3. Principal Business Address

701 8th Street NW, Suite 650
Washington, DC 20001

4. If the registrant is an individual, furnish the following information:

(a) Residence address(es)

None

(b) Other business address(es), if any

None

(c) Nationality None

(d) Year of birth None

(e) Present citizenship None

(f) If present citizenship not acquired by birth, state when, where and how acquired None

(g) Occupation None

5. If the registrant is not an individual, furnish the following information:

(a) Type of organization: Committee ☐ Association ☐ Partnership ☐ Voluntary group ☐

Corporation ☐

Other (specify) LLC

(b) Date and place of organization October, 2003 Delaware

(c) Address of principal office 137 Fifth Ave. New York, NY 10010
701 8th Street NW, Suite 650 Washington, DC 20001

(d) Name of person in charge Kieran Mahoney, CEO

(e) Locations of branch or local offices New York, NY; Albany, NY; Sacramento, CA; Tampa, FL; Washington, DC; Westfield, NJ;
Los Angeles, CA; St. Louis, MO

(f) If a membership organization, give number of members None

(PAGE 2)

(g) List all partners, officers, directors or persons performing the functions of an officer or director of the registrant.

Name	Residence Address(es)	Position	Nationality
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Please see attachment.

(h) Which of the above named persons renders services directly in furtherance of the interests of any of the foreign principals?

John Vincent Weber

(i) Describe the nature of the registrant's regular business or activity.

Consulting/Public Policy

(j) Give a complete statement of the ownership and control of the registrant.

Mercury Public Affairs, LLC is organized in NY and is 100% owned by Omnicom.

6. List all employees who render services to the registrant directly in furtherance of the interests of any of the foreign principals in other than a clerical, secretarial, or in a related or similar capacity.

Name	Residence Address(es)	Nature of Services
Michael McSherry	6247 Auburn Leaf Lane, Alexandria, VA 22312	Strategic Counsel
Ed Kutler	6405 Treetop Circle, Columbia, MD 21045	Strategic Counsel

II--FOREIGN PRINCIPAL7. List every foreign principal¹ for whom the registrant is acting or has agreed to act.

Foreign Principal

European Centre For a Modern Ukraine

Principal Address(es)

14 Rue de la Science,
1040 Brussels, Belgium**III--ACTIVITIES**8. In addition to the activities described in any Exhibit B to this statement, will you engage or are you engaging now in activity on your own behalf which benefits any or all of your foreign principals? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, describe fully.

IV--FINANCIAL INFORMATION**9. (a) RECEIPTS-MONIES**During the period beginning 60 days prior to the date of your obligation to register² to the time of filing this statement, did you receive from any foreign principal named in Item 7 any contribution, income, or money either as compensation or for disbursement or otherwise? Yes ☐ No ☒If yes, set forth below in the required detail and separately for each such foreign principal an account of such monies.³

Foreign Principal	Date Received	Purpose	Amount
			0
			Total

¹ The term "foreign principal," as defined in Section 1(b) of the Act, includes a foreign government, foreign political party, foreign organization, foreign individual and, for the purpose of registration, an organization or an individual any of whose activities are directly or indirectly supervised, directed, controlled, financed, or subsidized in whole or in major part by a foreign government, foreign political party, foreign organization or foreign individual.

² An agent must register within ten days of becoming an agent, and before acting as such.

³ A registrant is required to file an Exhibit D if he collects or receives contributions, loans, money, or other things of value for a foreign principal, as part of a fundraising campaign. There is no printed form for this exhibit. (See Rule 201(e), 28 C.F.R. § 5.201(e)).

(b) RECEIPTS-THINGS OF VALUE

During the period beginning 60 days prior to the date of your obligation to register⁴ to the time of filing this statement, did you receive from any foreign principal named in Item 7 anything of value⁵ other than money, either as compensation, or for disbursement, or otherwise? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Foreign Principal	Date Received	Thing of Value	Purpose
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10. (a) DISBURSEMENT-MONIES

During the period beginning 60 days prior to the date of your obligation to register⁴ to the time of filing this statement, did you spend or disburse any money in furtherance of or in connection with your activities on behalf of any foreign principal named in Item 7? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, set forth below in the required detail and separately for each such foreign principal named including monies transmitted, if any, to each foreign principal:

Date	To Whom	Purpose	Amount
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(b) DISBURSEMENTS-THINGS OF VALUE

During the period beginning 60 days prior to the date of your obligation to register⁴ to the time of filing this statement, did you dispose of any thing of value⁵ other than money in furtherance of or in connection with your activities on behalf of any foreign principal named in Item 7? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Date	Recipient	Foreign Principal	Thing of Value	Purpose
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(c) DISBURSEMENTS-POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

During the period beginning 60 days prior to the date of your obligation to register⁴ to the time of filing this statement, did you, the registrant, or any short form registrant, make any contribution of money or other thing of value from your own funds and on your own behalf in connection with an election to any political office or in connection with any primary election, convention, or caucus held to select candidates for any political office? Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, furnish the following information:

Date	Amount or Thing of Value	Political Organization or Candidate	Location of Event
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Please see attachment.

4, 6, 7 and 9 See Footnote 2, on page 3.

5 and 8 Things of value include but are not limited to gifts, interest free loans, expense free travel, favored stock purchases, exclusive rights, favored treatment over competitors, "kickbacks", and the like.

100444644001

V-INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS¹⁰

11. Will the activities of the registrant on behalf of any foreign principal include the preparation or dissemination of informational materials? Yes ☒ No ☐

IF YES, RESPOND TO THE REMAINING ITEMS IN THIS SECTION V.

12. Identify each such foreign principal.
European Centre For a Modern Ukraine

13. Has a budget been established or specified sum of money allocated to finance your activities in preparing or disseminating informational materials? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, identify each such foreign principal, specify amount and for what period of time.

14. Will any public relations firms or publicity agents participate in the preparation or dissemination of such informational materials? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the names and addresses of such persons or firms.

15. Activities in preparing or disseminating informational materials will include the use of the following:

- ☐ Radio or TV broadcasts ☐ Magazine or newspaper ☐ Motion picture films ☐ Letters or telegrams
☐ Advertising campaigns ☒ Press releases ☐ Pamphlets or other publications ☐ Lectures or speeches
☐ Other (specify) _____

Electronic Communications

- ☒ Email
☐ Website URL(s): _____
☐ Social media website URL(s): _____
☐ Other (specify) _____

16. Informational materials will be disseminated among the following groups:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public officials | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Civic groups or associations |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislators | <input type="checkbox"/> Libraries |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government agencies | <input type="checkbox"/> Educational groups |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newspapers | <input type="checkbox"/> Nationality groups |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Editors | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____ |

17. Indicate language to be used in the informational materials:

- ☒ English ☐ Other (specify) _____

10 The term informational materials includes any oral, visual, graphic, written, or pictorial information or matter of any kind, including that published by means of advertising, books, periodicals, newspapers, lectures, broadcasts, motion pictures, or any means or instrumentality of interstate or foreign commerce or otherwise. Informational materials disseminated by an agent of a foreign principal as part of an activity in itself exempt from registration, or an activity which by itself would not require registration, need not be filed pursuant to Section 4(b) of the Act.

1004446714

VI-EXHIBITS AND ATTACHMENTS

18. (a) The following described exhibits shall be filed with an initial registration statement:

Exhibit A- This exhibit, which is filed on Form NSD-3, sets forth the information required to be disclosed concerning each foreign principal named in Item 7.

Exhibit B- This exhibit, which is filed on Form NSD-4, sets forth the information concerning the agreement or understanding between the registrant and the foreign principal.

(b) An Exhibit C shall be filed when applicable. This exhibit, for which no printed form is provided, consists of a true copy of the charter, articles of incorporation, association, constitution, and bylaws of a registrant that is an organization. A waiver of the requirement to file an Exhibit C may be obtained for good cause shown upon written application to the Assistant Attorney General, National Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530. (See Rule 201(c) and (d)).

(c) An Exhibit D shall be filed when applicable. This exhibit, for which no printed form is provided, sets forth an account of money collected or received as a result of a fundraising campaign and transmitted for a foreign principal. (See Rule 201 (e)).

VII-EXECUTION

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746, the undersigned swear(s) or affirm(s) under penalty of perjury that he/she has (they have) read the information set forth in this registration statement and the attached exhibits and that he/she is (they are) familiar with the contents thereof and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her (their) knowledge and belief, except that the undersigned make(s) no representation as to truth or accuracy of the information contained in the attached Short Form Registration Statement(s), if any, insofar as such information is not within his/her (their) personal knowledge.

(Date of signature)

(Print or type name under each signature or provide electronic signature¹¹)

April 28, 2017

/s/ John Vincent Weber

eSigned

¹¹ This statement shall be signed by the individual agent, if the registrant is an individual, or by a majority of those partners, officers, directors or persons performing similar functions, if the registrant is an organization, except that the organization can, by power of attorney, authorize one or more individuals to execute this statement on its behalf.

Question 5g

Partners & Officers List

Name	Residence Address	Position	Nationality
Kieran Mahoney	4706 Rue Bordeaux, Lutz, FL 33558	CEO	USA
Kirill Goncharenko	285 Lafayette St., 6E, New York, NY 10012	President	USA
Adam Mendelson	8380 Dover Dr., Granite Bay, CA 95746	Partner	USA
Fabian Nunez	3330 American River Dr., Sacramento, CA 95864	Partner	USA
Tom Doherty	22 Patriot Crossing, Rockaway, NJ 07866	Partner	USA
Michael McKeon	134 Circle Dr., Manhasset, NJ 11030	Partner	USA
John Vincent Weber	7701 Ridgecrest Dr., Alexandria VA and 6811 Maple Leaf Dr., Walker, MN, 56484	Partner	USA
Max Sandlin	900 W. White Willow Circle, Sioux Falls, SD 57108	Partner	USA
Mike DuHalme	515 Park Avenue, Westfield, NJ 07090	Partner	USA

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Question 10c

KUTLER, EDWARD S	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 OHIO 2012 VICTORY FUND	3/3/2012	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 GIBBS, ROBERT VIA GIBBS FOR CONGRESS	3/5/2012	333.33
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 RENACCI, JAMES E. VIA JIM RENACCI FOR CONGRESS	3/3/2012	333.33
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 LINGLE, LINDA VIA LINDA LINGLE SENATE COMMITTEE	3/6/2012	500
WEBER, VIN HON	WASHINGTON	DC	20001 LINGLE, LINDA VIA LINDA LINGLE SENATE COMMITTEE	3/6/2012	500
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 EVERY REPUBLICAN IS CRUCIAL (ERIC PAC)	3/9/2012	1500
MCCHERRY, MICHAEL	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22312 EVERY REPUBLICAN IS CRUCIAL (ERIC PAC)	3/9/2012	500
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22308 EVERY REPUBLICAN IS CRUCIAL (ERIC PAC)	3/9/2012	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD S	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 SCOTT, JIMOTHY VIA JIM SCOTT FOR CONGRESS	3/15/2012	500
WEBER, VIN	WASHINGTON	DC	20001 ADAMS, KIRK DAVID VIA KIRK ADAMS FOR CONGRESS	3/15/2012	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL S	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 MAJORITY COMMITTEE PAC - MC PAC	3/17/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 PORTMAN, BOB VIA PORTMAN FOR SENATE COMMITTEE	3/21/2012	500
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22308 BARTLETT, ROSCOE O. REP. VIA BARTLETT FOR CONGRESS COMMITTEE	3/21/2012	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD S.	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 REPUBLICAN MAJORITY FUND	3/23/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 THE COMMITTEE FOR THE PRESERVATION OF CAPITALISM	3/23/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 NUNES, DEVIN G VIA DEVIN NUNES CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE	3/23/2012	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD S. MR.	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 MCKINLEY, DAVID R. MR. VIA MCKINLEY FOR CONGRESS	3/30/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 CONCERNED AMERICANS FOR FREEDOM & OPPORTUNITY PAC (CAFO PAC)	3/30/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 GRAHAM, LINDSEY Q VIA TEAM GRAHAM INC	3/30/2012	500
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 ROEMER FOR SPEAKER	3/30/2012	500
MCCHERRY, MICHAEL T.	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22312 GRAHAM, LINDSEY Q VIA TEAM GRAHAM INC	3/30/2012	500
MCCHERRY, MICHAEL T.	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22312 REPUBLICAN MAJORITY FUND	3/30/2012	250
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22308 GRAHAM, LINDSEY Q VIA TEAM GRAHAM INC	3/30/2012	500
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 GOODLATTE, ROBERT W. VIA BOB GOODLATTE FOR CONGRESS COMMITTEE	3/31/2012	500
KUTLER, EDWARD S	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 GIBSON, CHRISTOPHER E VIA CHRIS GIBSON FOR CONGRESS	3/31/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 GUTHRIE, S. BRETT HON. VIA GUTHRIE FOR CONGRESS	3/31/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD MR.	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 CANTOR, ERIC VIA CANTOR FOR CONGRESS	4/2/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 DEFEND AMERICA PAC	4/11/2012	250
MCCHERRY, MICHAEL	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22312 DEFEND AMERICA PAC	4/11/2012	1000
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22308 ROEMER FOR SPEAKER	4/16/2012	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD S	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 CFE VICTORY FUND CALIFORNIANS FOR A PROSPEROUS ECONOMY V.F.	4/17/2012	500
KUTLER, EDWARD S	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 CFE VICTORY FUND CALIFORNIANS FOR A PROSPEROUS ECONOMY V.F.	4/17/2012	500

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Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 04/28/2017 1:48:41 PM

OMB No. 1124-0002; Expires April 30, 2017

U.S. Department of Justice

Washington, DC 20530

Supplemental Statement

Pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended

For Six Month Period Ending 10/31/12

(Insert date)

I - REGISTRANT

1. (a) Name of Registrant

(b) Registration No.

Mercury Public Affairs, LLC / dba Mercury/Clark & Wei 6170

(c) Business Address(es) of Registrant

701 8th Street NW, Suite 650
Washington, DC 20001

2. Has there been a change in the information previously furnished in connection with the following?

(a) If an individual:

(1) Residence address(es) Yes ☐ No ☐

(2) Citizenship Yes ☐ No ☐

(3) Occupation Yes ☐ No ☐

(b) If an organization:

(1) Name Yes ☐ No ☒

(2) Ownership or control Yes ☐ No ☒

(3) Branch offices Yes ☒ No ☐

(c) Explain fully all changes, if any, indicated in items (a) and (b) above.

Registrant opened a new local office in Harrisburg, PA.

IF THE REGISTRANT IS AN INDIVIDUAL, OMIT RESPONSE TO ITEMS 3, 4, AND 5(a).

3. If you have previously filed Exhibit C¹, state whether any changes therein have occurred during this 6 month reporting period.

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, have you filed an amendment to the Exhibit C? Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, please attach the required amendment.

¹ The Exhibit C, for which no printed form is provided, consists of a true copy of the charter, articles of incorporation, association, and by laws of a registrant that is an organization. (A waiver of the requirement to file an Exhibit C may be obtained for good cause upon written application to the Assistant Attorney General, National Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530.)

4. (a) Have any persons ceased acting as partners, officers, directors or similar officials of the registrant during this 6 month reporting period?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Position	Date Connection Ended
None		

(b) Have any persons become partners, officers, directors or similar officials during this 6 month reporting period?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Residence Address	Citizenship	Position	Date Assumed
None				

5. (a) Has any person named in Item 4(b) rendered services directly in furtherance of the interests of any foreign principal?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, identify each such person and describe the service rendered.

None

(b) During this six month reporting period, has the registrant hired as employees or in any other capacity, any persons who rendered or will render services to the registrant directly in furtherance of the interests of any foreign principal(s) in other than a clerical or secretarial, or in a related or similar capacity? Yes ☐ No ☒

Name	Residence Address	Citizenship	Position	Date Assumed
None				

(c) Have any employees or individuals, who have filed a short form registration statement, terminated their employment or connection with the registrant during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Position or Connection	Date Terminated
None		

(d) Have any employees or individuals, who have filed a short form registration statement, terminated their connection with any foreign principal during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Position or Connection	Foreign Principal	Date Terminated
None			

6. Have short form registration statements been filed by all of the persons named in Items 5(a) and 5(b) of the supplemental statement?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, list names of persons who have not filed the required statement.

None

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II - FOREIGN PRINCIPAL

7. Has your connection with any foreign principal ended during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Foreign Principal

Date of Termination

8. Have you acquired any new foreign principal(s)² during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name and Address of Foreign Principal(s)

Date Acquired

9. In addition to those named in Items 7 and 8, if any, list foreign principal(s)² whom you continued to represent during the 6 month reporting period.

European Centre For a Modern Ukraine

10. (a) Have you filed exhibits for the newly acquired foreign principal(s), if any, listed in Item 8?

Exhibit A³ Yes ☐ No ☐

Exhibit B⁴ Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, please attach the required exhibit.

(b) Have there been any changes in the Exhibits A and B previously filed for any foreign principal whom you represented during this six month period? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, have you filed an amendment to these exhibits? Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, please attach the required amendment.

² The term "foreign principal" includes, in addition to those defined in Section 1(b) of the Act, an individual organization any of whose activities are directly or indirectly supervised, directed, controlled, financed, or subsidized in whole or in major part by a foreign government, foreign political party, foreign organization or foreign individual. (See Rule 100(a)(9)). A registrant who represents more than one foreign principal is required to list in the statement he files under the Act only those principals for whom he is not entitled to claim exemption under Section 3 of the Act. (See Rule 201.)

³ The Exhibit A, which is filed on Form NSD-3, sets forth the information required to be disclosed concerning each foreign principal.

⁴ The Exhibit B, which is filed on Form NSD-4, sets forth the information concerning the agreement or understanding between the registrant and the foreign principal.

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III - ACTIVITIES

11. During this 6 month reporting period, have you engaged in any activities for or rendered any services to any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement? Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, identify each foreign principal and describe in full detail your activities and services:

Please see attachment.

12. During this 6 month reporting period, have you on behalf of any foreign principal engaged in political activity⁵ as defined below? Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, identify each such foreign principal and describe in full detail all such political activity, indicating, among other things, the relations, interests and policies sought to be influenced and the means employed to achieve this purpose. If the registrant arranged, sponsored or delivered speeches, lectures or radio and TV broadcasts, give details as to dates, places of delivery, names of speakers and subject matter.

Please see attachment.

13. In addition to the above described activities, if any, have you engaged in activity on your own behalf which benefits your foreign principal(s)? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, describe fully.

⁵ "Political activity," as defined in Section 1(e) of the Act, means any activity that the person engaging in believes will, or that the person intends to, in any way influence any agency or official of the Government of the United States or any section of the public within the United States with reference to formulating, adopting or changing the domestic or foreign policies of the United States or with reference to political or public interests, policies, or relations of a government of a foreign country or a person connected with such government.

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IV - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

14. (a) RECEIPTS-MONIES

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received from any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement, or from any other source, for or in the interests of any such foreign principal, any contributions, income or money either as compensation or otherwise? Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, explain why.

If yes, set forth below in the required detail and separately for each foreign principal an account of such monies.⁶

Date	From Whom	Purpose	Amount
Please see attachment.			

\$360,000

Total

(b) RECEIPTS - FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received, as part of a fundraising campaign⁷, any money on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, have you filed an Exhibit D⁸ to your registration? Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, indicate the date the Exhibit D was filed. Date _____

(c) RECEIPTS-THINGS OF VALUE

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received any thing of value⁹ other than money from any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement, or from any other source, for or in the interests of any such foreign principal?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Foreign Principal	Date Received	Thing of Value	Purpose
-------------------	---------------	----------------	---------

^{6, 7} A registrant is required to file an Exhibit D if he collects or receives contributions, loans, money, or other things of value for a foreign principal, as part of a fundraising campaign. (See Rule 201(e)).

⁸ An Exhibit D, for which no printed form is provided, sets forth an account of money collected or received as a result of a fundraising campaign and transmitted for a foreign principal.

⁹ Things of value include but are not limited to gifts, interest free loans, expense free travel, favored stock purchases, exclusive rights, favored treatment over competitors, "kickbacks," and the like.

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15. (a) **DISBURSEMENTS-MONIES**

During this 6 month reporting period, have you

- (1) disbursed or expended monies in connection with activity on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement? Yes ☒ No ☐
- (2) transmitted monies to any such foreign principal? Yes ☐ No ☒

If no, explain in full detail why there were no disbursements made on behalf of any foreign principal.

If yes, set forth below in the required detail and separately for each foreign principal an account of such monies, including monies transmitted, if any, to each foreign principal.

Date	To Whom	Purpose	Amount
Please see attachment.			

\$33,954.26

Total

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(b) **DISBURSEMENTS-THINGS OF VALUE**

During this 6 month reporting period, have you disposed of anything of value¹⁰ other than money in furtherance of or in connection with activities on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Date	Recipient	Foreign Principal	Thing of Value	Purpose
------	-----------	-------------------	----------------	---------

(c) **DISBURSEMENTS-POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS**

During this 6 month reporting period, have you from your own funds and on your own behalf either directly or through any other person, made any contributions of money or other things of value¹¹ in connection with an election to any political office, or in connection with any primary election, convention, or caucus held to select candidates for political office?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If yes, furnish the following information:

Date	Amount or Thing of Value	Political Organization or Candidate	Location of Event
------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------

Please see attachment.

10, 11 Things of value include but are not limited to gifts, interest free loans, expense free travel, favored stock purchases, exclusive rights, favored treatment over competitors, "kickbacks," and the like.

V - INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

16. (a) During this 6 month reporting period, did you prepare, disseminate or cause to be disseminated any informational materials?¹²

Yes ☒ No ☐

If Yes, go to Item 17.

(b) If you answered No to Item 16(a), do you disseminate any material in connection with your registration?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If Yes, please forward the materials disseminated during the six month period to the Registration Unit for review.

17. Identify each such foreign principal.

European Centre For a Modern Ukraine

18. During this 6 month reporting period, has any foreign principal established a budget or allocated a specified sum of money to finance your activities in preparing or disseminating informational materials? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, identify each such foreign principal, specify amount, and indicate for what period of time.

19. During this 6 month reporting period, did your activities in preparing, disseminating or causing the dissemination of informational materials include the use of any of the following:

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Radio or TV broadcasts | <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine or newspaper | <input type="checkbox"/> Motion picture films | <input type="checkbox"/> Letters or telegrams |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Advertising campaigns | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Press releases | <input type="checkbox"/> Pamphlets or other publications | <input type="checkbox"/> Lectures or speeches |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____ | | | |

Electronic Communications

☒ Email

☐ Website URL(s): _____

☐ Social media websites URL(s): _____

☐ Other (specify) _____

20. During this 6 month reporting period, did you disseminate or cause to be disseminated informational materials among any of the following groups:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public officials | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newspapers | <input type="checkbox"/> Libraries |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislators | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Editors | <input type="checkbox"/> Educational institutions |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government agencies | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Civic groups or associations | <input type="checkbox"/> Nationality groups |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____ | | |

21. What language was used in the informational materials:

☒ English

☐ Other (specify) _____

22. Did you file with the Registration Unit, U.S. Department of Justice a copy of each item of such informational materials disseminated or caused to be disseminated during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☐ No ☒

23. Did you label each item of such informational materials with the statement required by Section 4(b) of the Act?

Yes ☐ No ☒

¹² The term informational materials includes any oral, visual, graphic, written, or pictorial information or matter of any kind, including that published by means of advertising, books, periodicals, newspapers, lectures, broadcasts, motion pictures, or any means or instrumentality of interstate or foreign commerce or otherwise. Informational materials disseminated by an agent of a foreign principal as part of an activity in itself exempt from registration, or an activity which by itself would not require registration, need not be filed pursuant to Section 4(b) of the Act.

VI - EXECUTION

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746, the undersigned swear(s) or affirm(s) under penalty of perjury that he/she has (they have) read the information set forth in this registration statement and the attached exhibits and that he/she is (they are) familiar with the contents thereof and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her (their) knowledge and belief, except that the undersigned make(s) no representation as to truth or accuracy of the information contained in the attached Short Form Registration Statement(s), if any, insofar as such information is not within his/her (their) personal knowledge.

(Date of signature)

(Print or type name under each signature or provide electronic signature¹³)

April 28, 2017

/s/ John Vincent Weber

eSigned

¹³ This statement shall be signed by the individual agent, if the registrant is an individual, or by a majority of those partners, officers, directors or persons performing similar functions, if the registrant is an organization, except that the organization can, by power of attorney, authorize one or more individuals to execute this statement on its behalf.

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Through October 31, 2012

Question 11

Mercury provided U.S. government affairs and public relations work to the ECFMU to advance its goals of greater political and economic alignment between Ukraine and the West. Mercury communicated and arranged meeting with members of Congress and staff, non-governmental organizations such as think tanks, and the media.

Question 12

NOTE: This is a retroactive filing dating back more than three years and some of the individuals who worked on the engagement are no longer employed by the registrant. Nevertheless, Mercury has undertaken reasonable due diligence, including a thorough review of its existing records, to produce as accurate a log of communications as possible to the best of its recollection and knowledge.

Log of Communications with U.S. Government and NGOs

Date	Description of Activity
5/15/2012	Viktor Yushenko and Vin Weber met with Rep. Burton.
6/22/2012	Vin Weber and Mike McSherry met with Matt Rinkunas, Sen. Graham's office.
6/25/2012	Vin Weber met with Brian Wanko, Eurasia Subcommittee.
6/25/2012	Vin Weber met with Joel Starr, Sen. Inhofe's office.
6/25/2012	Vin Weber met with Victor Cervino, Sen. Rubio's office.
6/27/2012	Mike McSherry met with Chris Sullivan, Sen. Isakson's office.
7/11/2012	Mykhaylo Ohendovskyy met with Natalie Hill, NDI (Mercury arranged).
7/11/2012	Mykhaylo Ohendovskyy met with Susan Corke, Freedom House (Mercury arranged).
7/12/2012	Mykhaylo Ohendovskyy met with Orest Deychakiwsky, Helsinki Commission (Mercury arranged).
7/12/2012	Mykhaylo Ohendovskyy met with House Eurasia Subcommittee staff (Mercury arranged).
9/7/2012	Vin Weber contacted Sen. Inhofe's office to arrange a meeting.
10/4/2012	Mike McSherry spoke with Stacie Oliver, Sen. Corker's office.
10/4/2012	Mike McSherry spoke with Brandon Brooker, Sen. Paul's office.
10/5/2012	Ed Kutler spoke with Marik String, Senate Foreign Relations Committee.
10/12/2012	Ed Kutler spoke with Rachel Leeman, Rep. Dreier's office.
10/12/2012	Ed Kutler spoke with Dante Cutrona, Rep. Gerlach's office.
10/12/2012	Ed Kutler and Vin Weber spoke with Brady Howell, House Committee on Foreign Affairs, Eurasia Subcommittee.
10/12/2012	Ed Kutler and Vin Weber spoke with Marik String, Senate Foreign Relations Committee.
10/12/2012	Ed Kutler spoke with Ross Wilson, The Atlantic Council.
10/12/2012	Ed Kutler spoke with Susan Corke, Freedom House.
10/12/2012	Ed Kutler spoke with Stephen Nix, IRI.
10/16/2012	Mike McSherry spoke with Chris Sullivan, Sen. Isakson's office.

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10/16/2012	Mike McSherry spoke with Clayton Hall, Rep. Griffin's office.
10/18/2012	Vin Weber spoke with Ken Wollack and Laura Jewett, National Democratic Institute.
10/18/2012	Vin Weber spoke with Jim Kolbe, IRI.
10/18/2012	Mike McSherry spoke with Brandon Brooker, Sen. Paul's office.
10/22/2012	Mike McSherry emailed Stacie Oliver, Sen. Corker's office.
23-Oct	Mike McSherry emailed Amber Bland, Sen. Barrasso's office.
10/23/2012	Vin Weber spoke with Jim Kolbe and Stephen Nix, IRI.
10/23/2012	Vin Weber spoke with Bob Kagan, Brookings Institution.
24-Oct	Ed Kutler emailed Rich Galen, IRI.
26-Oct	Vin Weber and Mykhaylo Okhondovskyy held a conference call with Ganesan Annamalai (Rep. Keating's office), Victor Cervinho (Sen. Rubio's office), Brady Howell and Jasper Peterson (House Subcommittee on Eurasia), Annie Venderosa (Truman National Security Project), and members of the media.
10/26/2012	Ed Kutler spoke with Brad Smith, IRI.

Media Outreach:

Townhall.com
 Pajamas Media
 RightDC.com
 Motley Fool
 Breitbart's Big Government and Big Journalism
 News Busters
 HotAir.com
 American Spectator
 All Voices
 Family Security Matters
 Wall Street Journal, editorial department
 Right Wing News
 Human Events
 Washington Times
 Daily Caller
 Red State
 NPR
 The Conservatory
 Reason Magazine
 Irish times
 Financial Times
 The Economist
 Associated Press
 New York Times
 Washington Post
 Wall Street Journal
 Reuters
 CNN

Bloomberg
Times of London
Daily Telegraph
Forbes
Christian Science Monitor
Weekly Standard
National Review
National Journal
UnitedLiberty.org
RealClearWorld.com
Publius Forum
Time

Question 14(a)

Date	From Whom	Purpose	Amount
8/2/12	ECFMU	Fee	\$90,000
8/2/12	ECFMU	Fee	\$90,000
8/2/12	ECFMU	Fee	\$90,000
10/10/12	ECFMU	Fee	\$90,000

Question 15(a)

Date	To Whom	Purpose	Amount
April/May 2012	N/A	Mercury travel & meals	\$2,066.14
July 2012	N/A	Mercury travel & meals	\$891.12
August 2012	Red Chalk Studios	Graphic design	\$720
October 2012	Jonathan Henke	Research services	\$30,000
October 2012	N/A	Mercury travel & meals	\$277

Question 15c

KUTLER, EDWARD S.	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 ROUSTANT, CHARLES W. JR. VIA ROUSTANT FOR SENATE INC.	4/20/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 LINDREN, DANIEL E. VIA LINDREN FOR CONGRESS	4/27/2012	250
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22028 LINDREN, DANIEL E. VIA LINDREN FOR CONGRESS	4/27/2012	1000
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22028 ROSENBERG, EDITH A. VIA FRIENDS OF JOHN ROSENBERG	4/30/2012	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 SCALISE, STEVEN A. VIA SCALISE FOR CONGRESS	5/15/2012	250
MCNEHERY, MICHAEL T. MR.	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22013 TROTT, C. W. JR. VIA CONGRESSMAN BILL TROTT CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE	5/15/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD S.	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 MC MORRIS ROSENBERG, CATHY VIA CATHY MC MORRIS ROSENBERG FOR CONGRESS	5/16/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 BARR, GAIL AND ANITA VIA ANITA BARR FOR CONGRESS INC.	5/22/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 REBERG, DENNIS RAY VIA MONTANANS FOR REBERG	5/22/2012	250
MCNEHERY, MICHAEL T.	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22013 REBERG, DENNIS RAY VIA MONTANANS FOR REBERG	5/22/2012	1000
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22028 REBERG, DENNIS RAY VIA MONTANANS FOR REBERG	5/22/2012	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 RYAN, PAUL D. VIA RYAN FOR CONGRESS INC.	5/22/2012	250
MCNEHERY, MICHAEL	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22013 RYAN, PAUL D. VIA RYAN FOR CONGRESS INC.	5/22/2012	250
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22028 RYAN, PAUL D. VIA RYAN FOR CONGRESS INC.	5/22/2012	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 ROSENBERG, EDITH A. VIA FRIENDS OF JOHN ROSENBERG	5/22/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 GRAVER, SAMUEL B. JR. TAM. VIA GRAVER FOR CONGRESS	6/1/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL MR.	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 TYP FOR COMMITTEE	6/1/2012	2000
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22028 TYP FOR COMMITTEE	6/1/2012	2000
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22028 CLARK VIA AMERICAN WAY - DURANT 2012 THE	6/1/2012	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD S.	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 DHD 2012 VICTORY FUND	6/22/2012	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD S.	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 BLUNT, ROY VIA FRIENDS OF ROY BLUNT	6/25/2012	250
MCNEHERY, MICHAEL	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22013 BLUNT, ROY VIA FRIENDS OF ROY BLUNT	6/25/2012	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD S.	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 JOHNSON, BILL VIA JOHNSON FOR CONGRESS	6/27/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 ROBERT, RUDY VIA RUDY ROBERT FOR CONGRESS	6/30/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD MR.	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 FREEDOM PROJECT THE	6/30/2012	1250
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL MR.	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 ROSENBERG, EDITH A. VIA FRIENDS OF JOHN ROSENBERG	6/30/2012	250
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22028 ROSENBERG, EDITH A. VIA FRIENDS OF JOHN ROSENBERG	6/30/2012	1000
WEBER, VIN	WASHINGTON	DC	20085 FREEDOM PROJECT THE	6/30/2012	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL MR.	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 DHD 2012 VICTORY FUND	7/12/2012	2000
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL MR.	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 ROSENBERG, EDITH A. VIA FRIENDS OF JOHN ROSENBERG	7/12/2012	2000
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22028 BLUNT, ROY VIA FRIENDS OF ROY BLUNT	7/12/2012	1000
MCNEHERY, MICHAEL T.	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22013 PATRICK COUNTY REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE (FEDERAL)	7/23/2012	250
MCNEHERY, MICHAEL T. MR.	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22013 ROSENBERG, EDITH A. VIA FRIENDS OF JOHN ROSENBERG	7/23/2012	1000
MCNEHERY, MICHAEL	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22013 ROSENBERG, EDITH A. VIA FRIENDS OF JOHN ROSENBERG	7/24/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 RENACK, JAMES H. VIA JIM RENACK FOR CONGRESS	7/27/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL S.	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 MAJORITY COMMITTEE PAC-MC PAC	7/27/2012	1250
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 NECLAB AMERICA PAC	7/31/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD S.	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 FREEDOM PROJECT THE	7/31/2012	250
MCNEHERY, MICHAEL T.	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22013 FREEDOM PROJECT THE	7/31/2012	250
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22028 FREEDOM PROJECT THE	7/31/2012	250
MCNEHERY, MICHAEL	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22013 CRAYACK, BAYARDIAN INC. VIA CRAYACK FOR CONGRESS CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE	8/27/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD S.	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 REPUBLICAN OPERATION TO SECURE AND KEEP A MAJORITY (ROSEAM PAC)	9/1/2012	250
MCNEHERY, MICHAEL T.	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22013 MAJORITY, KEN VIA CITIZENS FOR THE MAJORITY INC.	9/1/2012	250
MCNEHERY, MICHAEL T.	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22013 PATRICK COUNTY REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE (FEDERAL)	9/1/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 KUTLER, DANIEL A. VIA FRIENDS OF DANIEL KUTLER	9/15/2012	250
MCNEHERY, MICHAEL	WASHINGTON	DC	20001 EMERSON, JIMMY VIA TEAM EMERSON FOR JIM AND ANN EMERSON	9/24/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 GILL, RUDY VIA RUDY GILL FOR CONGRESS	9/24/2012	150
MCNEHERY, MICHAEL T.	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22013 EMERSON, JOHN TIMOTHY VIA RE-ELECT TIM EMERSON FOR CONGRESS COMMITTEE	9/25/2012	250
MCNEHERY, MICHAEL T. MR.	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22013 ROSENBERG, EDITH A. VIA FRIENDS OF JOHN ROSENBERG	9/25/2012	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 TARKANIAN, DANIEL VIA TARKANIAN FOR CONGRESS	9/25/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 BARR, CHARLES E. VIA BARR VICTORY COMMITTEE	9/27/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD S.	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 BARR, CHARLES E. VIA BARR VICTORY COMMITTEE	9/27/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 LONGHORN PAC	9/28/2012	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 ROBERT, RUDY VIA RUDY ROBERT FOR CONGRESS	9/28/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 PARKER, VERNON VIA VERNON PARKER FOR CONGRESS	9/28/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 ALAMO PAC	9/28/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 ROSENBERG, EDITH A. VIA FRIENDS OF JOHN ROSENBERG	9/28/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 MCARDOCK, RICHARD E. VIA MCARDOCK FOR RICHARD MCARDOCK INC.	9/28/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD S.	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 ROSENBERG, DANIEL E. VIA ROSENBERG FOR CONGRESS INC.	9/30/2012	250
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22028 MCARDOCK, RICHARD E. VIA MCARDOCK FOR RICHARD MCARDOCK INC.	9/30/2012	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 PATON, JONATHAN VIA PATON FOR CONGRESS	10/2/2012	250
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22028 PATON, JONATHAN VIA PATON FOR CONGRESS	10/2/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 REPUBLICAN OPERATION TO SECURE AND KEEP A MAJORITY (ROSEAM PAC)	10/2/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 LEE, MARY VIA FRIENDS OF MARY LEE INC.	10/4/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 CRAYACK, BAYARDIAN INC. VIA CRAYACK FOR CONGRESS CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE	10/5/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 THOMPSON, THOMAS G. VIA THOMAS THOMPSON FOR SENATE INC.	10/9/2012	250
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22028 THOMPSON, THOMAS G. VIA THOMAS THOMPSON FOR SENATE INC.	10/10/2012	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 NECLAB AMERICA PAC	10/15/2012	250
WEBER, VIN MR.	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22028 WILSON, HEATHER A. VIA WILSON FOR SENATE	10/15/2012	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD S.	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 MAJORITY, KEN VIA CITIZENS FOR THE MAJORITY INC.	10/16/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL MR.	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 ROSENBERG, EDITH A. VIA FRIENDS OF JOHN ROSENBERG	10/16/2012	250
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22028 THOMPSON, THOMAS G. VIA THOMAS THOMPSON FOR SENATE INC.	10/16/2012	1000
MCNEHERY, MICHAEL	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22013 WAGNER, ANNE VIA ANNE WAGNER FOR CONGRESS	10/16/2012	250
MCNEHERY, MICHAEL T. MR.	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22013 WALCHER, EDWARD JACOB VIA WALCHER FOR CONGRESS INC.	10/16/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 HEARTLAND VALLER PAC	10/23/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL MR.	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 NECC	10/23/2012	1000
MCNEHERY, MICHAEL MR.	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22013 NECC	10/23/2012	250
WEBER, VIN MR.	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22028 NECC	10/23/2012	1000
MCNEHERY, MICHAEL	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22013 JOHN S. BIRD	10/26/2012	250

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UKRAINE

Parliamentary Elections 101



Ukraine will continue their commitment to genuine, democratic electoral processes in line with European standards in order to join the European Union. Recently, after achieving consensus on new election laws, all of Ukraine's political forces voted in favor of the landmark election reforms. The European Centre for a Modern Ukraine (ECFMU) has actively supported recent reforms that will help to ensure that October's elections are free, fair and transparent.

UKRAINE'S NEW ELECTION LAWS ARE

FREE + FAIR + TRANSPARENT = **Compliance with International Electoral Standards**

OCT 28 ELECTION DATE

5 YEARS ELECTION TERM

450 IN PARLIAMENT

TENS OF THOUSANDS of international and domestic election observers set to monitor vote casting and counting in addition to webcams installed at 34,000 polling stations allowing anyone with an internet connection to watch the elections in real time.

NEW ELECTION LAWS

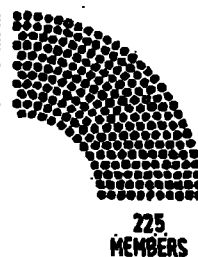
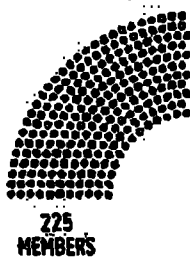


- Adopted by Ukraine's Parliament on November 17, 2011
- Supported by 81% of members (from every faction)
- Includes major requirements of ruling party and opposition
- Drafted with the help of Venice Commission and the OSCE

NEW PARLIAMENT ELECTION POLICIES

450 TOTAL MEMBERS Elected by mixed electoral system

- Recent reforms require half the members of parliament to be elected directly by constituents in defined geographic districts.



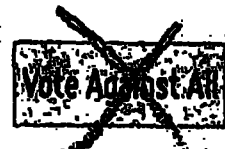
- The remaining 225 seats are filled by the European party-list system whereby seats are allocated to each party in proportion to the number of votes the party receives in nation-wide voting.



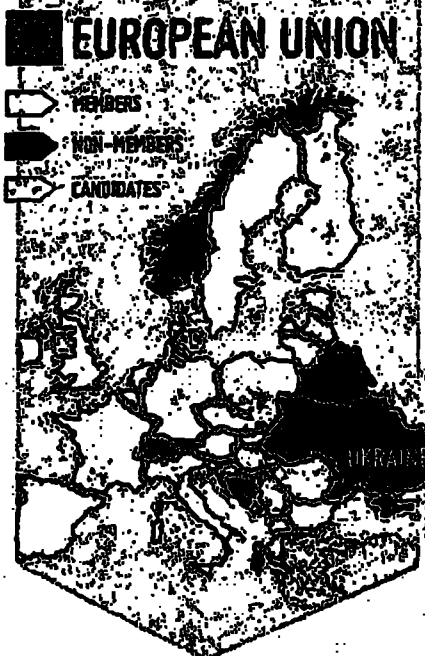
A party must have at least 5% of votes to be admitted to parliament (up from 3%).



No more political blocs. Parties can no longer run together in electoral coalitions.



"Vote against all" is no longer a choice on the ballot.



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Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 04/28/2017 1:48:41 PM

OMB No. 1124-0002; Expires April 30, 2017

U.S. Department of Justice
Washington, DC 20530

Supplemental Statement

**Pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of
1938, as amended**

For Six Month Period Ending 4/30/13

(Insert date)

I - REGISTRANT

1. (a) Name of Registrant

(b) Registration No.

Mercury Public Affairs, LLC / dba Mercury/Clark & Web 6170

(c) Business Address(es) of Registrant

701 8th Street NW, Suite 650
Washington, DC 20001

2. Has there been a change in the information previously furnished in connection with the following?

(a) If an individual:

(1) Residence address(es)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
(2) Citizenship	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
(3) Occupation	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

(b) If an organization:

(1) Name	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(2) Ownership or control	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(3) Branch offices	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

(c) Explain fully all changes, if any, indicated in items (a) and (b) above.

Registrant closed a local office in St. Louis, MO.

IF THE REGISTRANT IS AN INDIVIDUAL, OMIT RESPONSE TO ITEMS 3, 4, AND 5(a).

3. If you have previously filed Exhibit C¹, state whether any changes therein have occurred during this 6 month reporting period.

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, have you filed an amendment to the Exhibit C?

Yes ☐

No ☐

If no, please attach the required amendment.

¹ The Exhibit C, for which no printed form is provided, consists of a true copy of the charter, articles of incorporation, association, and by laws of a registrant that is an organization. (A waiver of the requirement to file an Exhibit C may be obtained for good cause upon written application to the Assistant Attorney General, National Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530.)

4. (a) Have any persons ceased acting as partners, officers, directors or similar officials of the registrant during this 6 month reporting period?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Position	Date Connection Ended
None		

(b) Have any persons become partners, officers, directors or similar officials during this 6 month reporting period?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Residence Address	Citizenship	Position	Date Assumed
None				

5. (a) Has any person named in Item 4(b) rendered services directly in furtherance of the interests of any foreign principal?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, identify each such person and describe the service rendered.

None

(b) During this six month reporting period, has the registrant hired as employees or in any other capacity, any persons who rendered or will render services to the registrant directly in furtherance of the interests of any foreign principal(s) in other than a clerical or secretarial, or in a related or similar capacity? Yes ☐ No ☒

Name	Residence Address	Citizenship	Position	Date Assumed
None				

(c) Have any employees or individuals, who have filed a short form registration statement, terminated their employment or connection with the registrant during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Position or Connection	Date Terminated
None		

(d) Have any employees or individuals, who have filed a short form registration statement, terminated their connection with any foreign principal during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Position or Connection	Foreign Principal	Date Terminated
None			

6. Have short form registration statements been filed by all of the persons named in Items 5(a) and 5(b) of the supplemental statement?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, list names of persons who have not filed the required statement.

None

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II - FOREIGN PRINCIPAL

7. Has your connection with any foreign principal ended during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Foreign Principal

Date of Termination

8. Have you acquired any new foreign principal(s)² during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name and Address of Foreign Principal(s)

Date Acquired

9. In addition to those named in Items 7 and 8, if any, list foreign principal(s)² whom you continued to represent during the 6 month reporting period.

European Centre For a Modern Ukraine

10. (a) Have you filed exhibits for the newly acquired foreign principal(s), if any, listed in Item 8?

Exhibit A³ Yes ☐ No ☐

Exhibit B⁴ Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, please attach the required exhibit.

(b) Have there been any changes in the Exhibits A and B previously filed for any foreign principal whom you represented during this six month period? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, have you filed an amendment to these exhibits? Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, please attach the required amendment.

² The term "foreign principal" includes, in addition to those defined in Section 1(b) of the Act, an individual organization any of whose activities are directly or indirectly supervised, directed, controlled, financed, or subsidized in whole or in major part by a foreign government, foreign political party, foreign organization or foreign individual. (See Rule 100(a) (9)). A registrant who represents more than one foreign principal is required to list in the statements he files under the Act only those principals for which he is not entitled to claim exemption under Section 3 of the Act. (See Rule 208.)

³ The Exhibit A, which is filed on Form NSD-3, sets forth the information required to be disclosed concerning each foreign principal.

⁴ The Exhibit B, which is filed on Form NSD-4, sets forth the information concerning the agreement or understanding between the registrant and the foreign principal.

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III - ACTIVITIES

11. During this 6 month reporting period, have you engaged in any activities for or rendered any services to any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement? Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, identify each foreign principal and describe in full detail your activities and services:

Please see attachment.

12. During this 6 month reporting period, have you on behalf of any foreign principal engaged in political activity⁵ as defined below? Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, identify each such foreign principal and describe in full detail all such political activity, indicating, among other things, the relations, interests and policies sought to be influenced and the means employed to achieve this purpose. If the registrant arranged, sponsored or delivered speeches, lectures or radio and TV broadcasts, give details as to dates, places of delivery, names of speakers and subject matter.

Please see attachment.

13. In addition to the above described activities, if any, have you engaged in activity on your own behalf which benefits your foreign principal(s)? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, describe fully.

⁵ "Political activity," as defined in Section 1(e) of the Act, means any activity that the person engaging in believes will, or that the person intends to, in any way influence any agency or official of the Government of the United States or any section of the public within the United States with reference to formulating, adopting or changing the domestic or foreign policies of the United States or with reference to political or public interests, policies, or relations of a government of a foreign country or a foreign political party.

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15. (a) DISBURSEMENTS-MONIES

During this 6 month reporting period, have you:

- (1) disbursed or expended monies in connection with activity on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement? Yes ☒ No ☐
- (2) transmitted monies to any such foreign principal? Yes ☐ No ☒

If no, explain in full detail why there were no disbursements made on behalf of any foreign principal.

If yes, set forth below in the required detail and separately for each foreign principal an account of such monies, including monies transmitted, if any, to each foreign principal.

Date	To Whom	Purpose	Amount
Please see attachment.			

\$200.51

Total

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(b) **DISBURSEMENTS-THINGS OF VALUE**

During this 6 month reporting period, have you disposed of anything of value¹⁰ other than money in furtherance of or in connection with activities on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Date	Recipient	Foreign Principal	Thing of Value	Purpose
------	-----------	-------------------	----------------	---------

(c) **DISBURSEMENTS-POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS**

During this 6 month reporting period, have you from your own funds and on your own behalf either directly or through any other person, made any contributions of money or other things of value¹¹ in connection with an election to any political office, or in connection with any primary election, convention, or caucus held to select candidates for political office?

Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, furnish the following information:

Date	Amount or Thing of Value	Political Organization or Candidate	Location of Event
------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------

Please see
attachment.

^{10, 11} Things of value include but are not limited to gifts, interest free loans, expense free travel, favored stock purchases, exclusive rights, favored treatment over competitors, "kickbacks," and the like.

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16. (a) During this 6 month reporting period, did you prepare, disseminate or cause to be disseminated any informational materials?¹²

If Yes, go to Item 17.

(b) If you answered No to Item 16(a), do you disseminate any material in connection with your registration?

If Yes, please forward the materials disseminated during the six month period to the Registration Unit for review.

17. Identify each such foreign principal:

European Centre For a Modern Ukraine

18. During this 6 month reporting period, has any foreign principal established a budget or allocated a specified sum of money to finance your activities in preparing or disseminating informational materials? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, identify each such foreign principal, specify amount, and indicate for what period of time.

19. During this 6 month reporting period, did your activities in preparing, disseminating or causing the dissemination of informational materials include the use of any of the following:

- ☐ Radio or TV broadcasts ☐ Magazine or newspaper ☐ Motion picture films ☐ Letters or telegrams
☐ Advertising campaigns ☒ Press releases ☐ Pamphlets or other publications ☐ Lectures or speeches
☐ Other (specify) _____

Electronic Communications

Email

☐ Website URL(s):

☐ Social media websites URL(s):

☐ Other (specify) _____

20. During this 6 month reporting period, did you disseminate or cause to be disseminated informational materials among any of the following groups:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public officials | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newspapers | <input type="checkbox"/> Libraries |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislators | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Editors | <input type="checkbox"/> Educational institutions |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government agencies | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Civic groups or associations | <input type="checkbox"/> Nationality groups |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____ | | |

21: What language was used in the informational materials:

English

☐ Other (specify) _____

22. Did you file with the Registration Unit, U.S. Department of Justice a copy of each item of such informational materials disseminated or caused to be disseminated during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☐ No ☒

23. Did you label each item of such informational materials with the statement required by Section 4(b) of the Act?

Yes ☐ No ☒

12 The term informational materials includes any oral, visual, graphic, written, or pictorial information or matter of any kind, including that published by means of advertising, books, periodicals, newspapers, lectures, broadcasts, motion pictures, or any means or instrumentality of interstate or foreign commerce or otherwise. Informational materials disseminated by an agent of a foreign principal as part of an activity in itself exempt from registration, or an activity which by itself would not require registration, need not be filed pursuant to Section 4(b) of the Act.

VI - EXECUTION

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746, the undersigned swear(s) or affirm(s) under penalty of perjury that he/she has (they have) read the information set forth in this registration statement and the attached exhibits and that he/she is (they are) familiar with the contents thereof and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her (their) knowledge and belief, except that the undersigned make(s) no representation as to truth or accuracy of the information contained in the attached Short Form Registration Statement(s), if any, insofar as such information is not within his/her (their) personal knowledge.

(Date of signature)

(Print or type name under each signature or provide electronic signature¹³)

April 28, 2017

/s/ John Vincent Weber

eSigned

¹³ This statement shall be signed by the individual agent, if the registrant is an individual, or by a majority of those partners, officers, directors or persons performing similar functions, if the registrant is an organization, except that the organization can, by power of attorney, authorize one or more individuals to execute this statement on its behalf.

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Through April 30, 2013

Question 11

Mercury provided U.S. government affairs and public relations work to the ECFMU to advance its goals of greater political and economic alignment between Ukraine and the West. Mercury communicated and arranged meeting with members of Congress and staff, non-governmental organizations such as think tanks, and the media.

Question 12

NOTE: This is a retroactive filing dating back more than three years and some of the individuals who worked on the engagement are no longer employed by the registrant. Nevertheless, Mercury has undertaken reasonable due diligence, including a thorough review of its existing records, to produce as accurate a log of communications as possible to the best of its recollection and knowledge.

Log of Communications with U.S. Government and NGOs

Date	Description of Activity
11/13/2012	Vin Weber spoke with Rep. Burton.
11/15/2012	Vin Weber, John Lonergan, Ed Kutler met with Jim Kolbe, IRL.
11/15/2012	Vin Weber met with Andrea Loving, House Judiciary Committee.
12/3/2012	Vin Weber and Paul Manafort met with Jim Kolbe, IRL.
2/15/2013	Ed Kutler met with Worku Gachou, House Committee on Foreign Affairs.
3/13/2013	Vin Weber, Romano Prodi (Former PM of Italy) met with Senate Foreign Relations minority staff.
3/14/2013	Ed Kutler, Romano Prodi (Former PM of Italy) met with Rep. Royce.
3/14/2013	Ed Kutler, Romano Prodi (Former PM of Italy) met with Robert Story Karem, Rep. Cantor's office.
3/19/2013	Vin Weber and Paul Manafort met with Paula Dobriansky, Kennedy School of Government.
3/19/2013	Vin Weber and Paul Manafort met with Nadia Dink, National Endowment for Democracy.
3/19/2013	Vin Weber and Paul Manafort met with Rep. Rohrabacher.
4/26/2013	Vin Weber spoke with Amos Hochstein, State Department.
4/30/2013	Vin Weber and Ed Kutler met with Mike Strassky and Arjun Mody, Senate Republican Policy Committee.

Media Outreach:

Townhall.com

1904446742
Pajamas Media
RightDC.com
Motley Fool
Breitbart's Big Government and Big Journalism
News Busters
HotAir.com
American Spectator
All Voices
Family Security Matters
Wall Street Journal, editorial department
Right Wing News
Human Events
Washington Times
Daily Caller
Red State
NPR
The Conservatory
Reason Magazine
Irish times
Financial Times
The Economist
Associated Press
New York Times
Washington Post
Wall Street Journal
Reuters
CNN
Bloomberg
Times of London
Daily Telegraph
Forbes
Christian Science Monitor
Weekly Standard
National Review
National Journal
UnitedLiberty.org
RealClearWorld.com
Publius Forum
Time

Question 14(a)

Date	From Whom	Purpose	Amount
11/16/12	ECFMU	Fee & Reimbursed Expense	\$120,000

Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 04/28/2017 1:48:41 PM

11/20/12	ECFMU	Fee & Reimbursed Expense	\$90,824.71
11/20/12	ECFMU	Fee & Reimbursed Expense	\$90,075.39
11/20/12	ECFMU	Reimbursed Expense	\$2,066.95
12/21/12	ECFMU	Fee	\$25,000
3/15/13	ECFMU	Fee	\$90,000

Question 15(a)

Date	To Whom	Purpose	Amount
November 2012	N/A	Mercury travel & meals	\$51
Dec 2012	N/A	Mercury travel & meals	\$130.84
March/April 2013	N/A	Mercury travel & meals	\$18.67

Question 15c

WEBER, JOHN VINCENT	ALEXANDRIA VA	21008 ROMNEY, MITT / PAUL D. RYAN VIA ROMNEY FOR PRESIDENT INC.	11/2/2012	500
WEBER, JOHN VINCENT	ALEXANDRIA VA	21008 ROMNEY, MITT / PAUL D. RYAN VIA ROMNEY FOR PRESIDENT INC.	11/2/2012	2500
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA MD	21045 HARRIS, ANDREW P VIA ANDY HARRIS FOR CONGRESS	11/4/2012	250
KUTLER, EDWARD S.	COLUMBIA MD	21045 ROUSTANTY, CHARLES W JR DR VIA ROUSTANTY FOR SENATE INC.	11/13/2012	500
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA MD	21045 KIRBY WITH DEBT	12/27/2012	500
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA MD	21045 WENSTRUP, BRAD DR VIA WENSTRUP FOR CONGRESS	1/19/2013	500
KUTLER, EDWARD S.	COLUMBIA MD	21045 HENSARLING, JED RON VIA FRIENDS OF JED HENSARLING	1/23/2013	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL MR.	COLUMBIA MD	21045 NRC	1/30/2013	5000
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL MR.	COLUMBIA MD	21045 NRC	2/5/2013	5000
KUTLER, EDWARD S.	COLUMBIA MD	21045 ANOTTE, KELLY A VIA FRIENDS OF KELLY ANOTTE INC.	2/12/2013	5000
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA VA	21008 ANOTTE, KELLY A VIA FRIENDS OF KELLY ANOTTE INC.	2/19/2013	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA MD	21045 DUFFY, BRIAN VIA DUFFY FOR VICTORY	2/24/2013	500
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA MD	21045 DARRIN, STEVEN VIA STEVE DARRIN FOR MONTANA	3/4/2013	250
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA MD	21045 BURGESS, DAN HANDELSTY PARTNERSHIP PAC	3/7/2013	500
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA VA	21008 ROYCE, ED MR VIA ROYCE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE	3/8/2013	500
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA MD	21045 MURKIN, DEVIN G VIA DEVIN MURKIN CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE	3/12/2013	1000
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA VA	21008 MURKIN, DEVIN G VIA DEVIN MURKIN CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE	3/12/2013	500
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL MR.	COLUMBIA MD	21045 ROSENBERG, FOR SPEAKER	3/15/2013	1500
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA MD	21045 FLECK, JIMMY CHARLES VIA CRICK FLECK JIMMY FOR CONGRESS COMMITTEE INC.	3/19/2013	500
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA MD	21045 ROHRBACHER, DANA VIA ROHRBACHER FOR CONGRESS	3/19/2013	500
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA MD	21045 RYCE, DAVID E VIA FRIENDS OF DAVE RYCE	3/23/2013	500
KUTLER, EDWARD S.	COLUMBIA MD	21045 RAY, ROBERT L VIA ROMNEY FOR CONGRESS	3/26/2013	250
KUTLER, EDWARD S MR.	COLUMBIA MD	21045 RULIFORD, RANDY VIA RANDY RULIFORD FOR CONGRESS	3/27/2013	500
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL MR.	COLUMBIA MD	21045 ROSENBERG, JIM A VIA FRIENDS OF JIM ROSENBERG	3/27/2013	1500
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA MD	21045 CURRY, JOHN VIA TEXANS FOR SENATOR JOHN CURRY INC.	4/23/2013	500

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Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 04/28/2017 1:48:41 PM

OMB No. 1124-0002; Expires April 30, 2017

U.S. Department of Justice
Washington, DC 20530

Supplemental Statement

**Pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of
1938, as amended**

For Six Month Period Ending 10/31/13

(Insert date)

I - REGISTRANT

1. (a) Name of Registrant

(b) Registration No.

Mercury Public Affairs, LLC / dba Mercury/Clark & Wei 6170

(c) Business Address(es) of Registrant

701 8th Street NW, Suite 650
Washington, DC 20001

2. Has there been a change in the information previously furnished in connection with the following?

(a) If an individual:

(1) Residence address(es)

Yes ☐

No ☐

(2) Citizenship

Yes ☐

No ☐

(3) Occupation

Yes ☐

No ☐

(b) If an organization:

(1) Name

Yes ☐

No ☒

(2) Ownership or control

Yes ☐

No ☒

(3) Branch offices

Yes ☐

No ☒

(c) Explain fully all changes, if any, indicated in Items (a) and (b) above:

None

IF THE REGISTRANT IS AN INDIVIDUAL, OMIT RESPONSE TO ITEMS 3, 4, AND 5(a).

3. If you have previously filed Exhibit C¹, state whether any changes therein have occurred during this 6 month reporting period.

Yes ☐

No ☒

If yes, have you filed an amendment to the Exhibit C?

Yes ☐

No ☐

If no, please attach the required amendment.

¹ The Exhibit C, for which no printed form is provided, consists of a true copy of the charter, articles of incorporation, association, and by laws of a registrant that is an organization. (A waiver of the requirement to file an Exhibit C may be obtained for good cause upon written application to the Assistant Attorney General, National Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530.)

4. (a) Have any persons ceased acting as partners, officers, directors or similar officials of the registrant during this 6 month reporting period?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Position	Date Connection Ended
None		

(b) Have any persons become partners, officers, directors or similar officials during this 6 month reporting period?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Residence Address	Citizenship	Position	Date Assumed
None				

5. (a) Has any person named in item 4(b) rendered services directly in furtherance of the interests of any foreign principal?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, identify each such person and describe the service rendered.

None

(b) During this six month reporting period, has the registrant hired as employees or in any other capacity, any persons who rendered or will render services to the registrant directly in furtherance of the interests of any foreign principal(s) in other than a clerical or secretarial, or in a related or similar capacity? Yes ☐ No ☒

Name	Residence Address	Citizenship	Position	Date Assumed
None				

(c) Have any employees or individuals, who have filed a short form registration statement, terminated their employment or connection with the registrant during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Position or Connection	Date Terminated
None		

(d) Have any employees or individuals, who have filed a short form registration statement, terminated their connection with any foreign principal during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Position or Connection	Foreign Principal	Date Terminated
None			

6. Have short form registration statements been filed by all of the persons named in items 5(a) and 5(b) of the supplemental statement?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, list names of persons who have not filed the required statement.

None

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II - FOREIGN PRINCIPAL

7. Has your connection with any foreign principal ended during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Foreign Principal

Date of Termination

8. Have you acquired any new foreign principal(s)² during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name and Address of Foreign Principal(s)

Date Acquired

9. In addition to those named in Items 7 and 8, if any, list foreign principal(s)² whom you continued to represent during the 6 month reporting period.

European Centre For a Modern Ukraine

10. (a) Have you filed exhibits for the newly acquired foreign principal(s), if any, listed in Item 8?

Exhibit A³ Yes ☐ No ☐

Exhibit B⁴ Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, please attach the required exhibit.

- (b) Have there been any changes in the Exhibits A and B previously filed for any foreign principal whom you represented during this six month period? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, have you filed an amendment to these exhibits? Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, please attach the required amendment.

² The term "foreign principal" includes, in addition to those defined in Section 1(b) of the Act, an individual organization any of whose activities are directly or indirectly supervised, directed, controlled, financed, or subsidized in whole or in major part by a foreign government, foreign political party, foreign organization or foreign individual. (See Rule 100(a) (9)). A registrant who represents more than one foreign principal is required to list in the statements he files under the Act only those principals for whom he is not entitled to claim exemption under Section 3 of the Act. (See Rule 201.)

³ The Exhibit A, which is filed on Form NSD-3, sets forth the information required to be disclosed concerning each foreign principal.

⁴ The Exhibit B, which is filed on Form NSD-4, sets forth the information concerning the agreement or understanding between the registrant and the foreign principal.

III - ACTIVITIES

11. During this 6 month reporting period, have you engaged in any activities for or rendered any services to any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement? Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, identify each foreign principal and describe in full detail your activities and services:

Please see attachment.

12. During this 6 month reporting period, have you on behalf of any foreign principal engaged in political activity³ as defined below? Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, identify each such foreign principal and describe in full detail all such political activity, indicating, among other things, the relations, interests and policies sought to be influenced and the means employed to achieve this purpose. If the registrant arranged, sponsored or delivered speeches, lectures or radio and TV broadcasts, give details as to dates, places of delivery, names of speakers and subject matter.

Please see attachment.

13. In addition to the above described activities, if any, have you engaged in activity on your own behalf which benefits your foreign principal(s)? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, describe fully.

³ "Political activity," as defined in Section 1(e) of the Act, means any activity that the person engaging in believes will, or that the person intends to, in any way influence any agency or official of the Government of the United States or any section of the public within the United States with reference to formulating, adopting or changing the domestic or foreign policies of the United States or with reference to political or public interests, policies, or relations of a government or of a government agency.

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IV - FINANCIAL INFORMATION**14. (a) RECEIPTS-MONIES**

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received from any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement, or from any other source, for or in the interests of any such foreign principal, any contributions, income or money either as compensation or otherwise? Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, explain why.

If yes, set forth below in the required detail and separately for each foreign principal an account of such monies.⁶

Date	From Whom	Purpose	Amount
Please see attachment.			

\$135,860.04

Total

(b) RECEIPTS - FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received, as part of a fundraising campaign⁷, any money on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, have you filed an Exhibit D⁸ to your registration? Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, indicate the date the Exhibit D was filed. Date _____

(c) RECEIPTS-THINGS OF VALUE

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received any thing of value⁹ other than money from any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement, or from any other source, for or in the interests of any such foreign principal?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Foreign Principal	Date Received	Thing of Value	Purpose
-------------------	---------------	----------------	---------

6, 7 A registrant is required to file an Exhibit D if he collects or receives contributions, loans, moneys, or other things of value for a foreign principal, as part of a fundraising campaign. (See Rule 201(c)).

8 An Exhibit D, for which no printed form is provided, sets forth an account of money collected or received as a result of a fundraising campaign and transmitted for a foreign principal.

9 Things of value include but are not limited to gifts, interest free loans, expense free travel, favored stock purchases, exclusive rights, favored treatment over competitors, "kickbacks" and the like.

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15. (a) DISBURSEMENTS-MONIES

During this 6 month reporting period, have you

(1) disbursed or expended monies in connection with activity on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement? Yes ☒ No ☐

(2) transmitted monies to any such foreign principal? Yes ☐ No ☒

If no, explain in full detail why there were no disbursements made on behalf of any foreign principal.

If yes, set forth below in the required detail and separately for each foreign principal an account of such monies, including monies transmitted, if any, to each foreign principal.

Date	To Whom	Purpose	Amount
Please see attachment.			

\$5,125.70

Total

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(b) **DISBURSEMENTS-THINGS OF VALUE**

During this 6 month reporting period, have you disposed of anything of value¹⁰ other than money in furtherance of or in connection with activities on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Date	Recipient	Foreign Principal	Thing of Value	Purpose
------	-----------	-------------------	----------------	---------

(c) **DISBURSEMENTS-POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS**

During this 6 month reporting period, have you from your own funds and on your own behalf either directly or through any other person, made any contributions of money or other things of value¹¹ in connection with an election to any political office, or in connection with any primary election, convention, or caucus held to select candidates for political office?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If yes, furnish the following information:

Date	Amount or Thing of Value	Political Organization or Candidate	Location of Event
------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------

Please see
attachment.

10, 11 Things of value include but are not limited to gifts, interest free loans, expense free travel, favored stock purchases, exclusive rights, favored treatment over competitors, "kickbacks," and the like.

V - INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

16. (a) During this 6 month reporting period, did you prepare, disseminate or cause to be disseminated any informational materials?¹²

Yes ☒ No ☐

If Yes, go to Item 17.

(b) If you answered No to Item 16(a), do you disseminate any material in connection with your registration?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If Yes, please forward the materials disseminated during the six month period to the Registration Unit for review.

17. Identify each such foreign principal.

European Centre For a Modern Ukraine.

18. During this 6 month reporting period, has any foreign principal established a budget or allocated a specified sum of money to finance your activities in preparing or disseminating informational materials? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, identify each such foreign principal, specify amount, and indicate for what period of time.

19. During this 6 month reporting period, did your activities in preparing, disseminating or causing the dissemination of informational materials include the use of any of the following:

- ☐ Radio or TV broadcasts ☐ Magazine or newspaper ☐ Motion picture films ☐ Letters or telegrams
☐ Advertising campaigns ☐ Press releases ☐ Pamphlets or other publications ☐ Lectures or speeches
☐ Other (specify) _____

Electronic Communications

☒ Email

☐ Website URL(s): _____

☐ Social media websites URL(s): _____

☐ Other (specify) _____

20. During this 6 month reporting period, did you disseminate or cause to be disseminated informational materials among any of the following groups:

- ☒ Public officials ☒ Newspapers ☐ Libraries
☒ Legislators ☒ Editors ☐ Educational institutions
☒ Government agencies ☒ Civic groups or associations ☐ Nationality groups
☐ Other (specify) _____

21. What language was used in the informational materials:

☒ English ☐ Other (specify) _____

22. Did you file with the Registration Unit, U.S. Department of Justice a copy of each item of such informational materials disseminated or caused to be disseminated during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☐ No ☒

23. Did you label each item of such informational materials with the statement required by Section 4(b) of the Act?

Yes ☐ No ☒

¹² The term informational materials includes any oral, visual, graphic, written, or pictorial information or matter of any kind, including that published by means of advertising, books, periodicals, newspapers, lectures, broadcasts, motion pictures, or any means or instrumentality of interstate or foreign commerce or otherwise. Informational materials disseminated by an agent of a foreign principal as part of an activity in itself exempt from registration, or an activity which by itself would not require registration, need not be filed pursuant to Section 4(b) of the Act.

VI - EXECUTION

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746, the undersigned swear(s) or affirm(s) under penalty of perjury that he/she has (they have) read the information set forth in this registration statement and the attached exhibits and that he/she is (they are) familiar with the contents thereof and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her (their) knowledge and belief, except that the undersigned make(s) no representation as to truth or accuracy of the information contained in the attached Short Form Registration Statement(s), if any, insofar as such information is not within his/her (their) personal knowledge.

(Date of signature)

(Print or type name under each signature or provide electronic signature¹³)

April 28, 2017

/s/ John Vincent Weber

eSigned

¹³ This statement shall be signed by the individual agent, if the registrant is an individual, or by a majority of those partners, officers, directors or persons performing similar functions, if the registrant is an organization, except that the organization can, by power of attorney, authorize one or more individuals to execute this statement on its behalf.

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Through October 31, 2013

Log of Communications with U.S. Government and NGOs

Question 11

Mercury provided U.S. government affairs and public relations work to the ECFMU to advance its goals of greater political and economic alignment between Ukraine and the West. Mercury communicated and arranged meeting with members of Congress and staff, non-governmental organizations such as think tanks, and the media.

Question 12

NOTE: This is a retroactive filing dating back more than three years and some of the individuals who worked on the engagement are no longer employed by the registrant. Nevertheless, Mercury has undertaken reasonable due diligence, including a thorough review of its existing records, to produce as accurate a log of communications as possible to the best of its recollection and knowledge.

Date	Description of Activity
5/8/2013	Sergiy Klyuyev and Vin Weber met with Rep. Gardner.
5/8/2013	Sergiy Klyuyev and Vin Weber met with Rep. Shimkus.
5/9/2013	Sergiy Klyuyev and Vin Weber met with Rep. Tim Murphy.
6/4/2013	Vin Weber and Jorge Zukoski met with Gib Mullin, House Energy & Commerce Committee.
6/4/2013	Vin Weber and Jorge Zukoski met with Joe Pinder, House Financial Services Committee.
6/5/2013	Ed Kutler and Alfred Gusenbauer (former Chancellor of Austria) met with Rep. Royce.
6/5/2013	Ed Kutler and Alfred Gusenbauer (former Chancellor of Austria) met with William Pomeranz, Kennan Institute, Wilson Center.
6/6/2013	Mike McSherry and Alfred Gusenbauer (former Chancellor of Austria) met with Rep. Marino.
6/6/2013	Ed Kutler and Alfred Gusenbauer (former Chancellor of Austria) met with Rep. Aderholt.
6/6/2013	Ed Kutler and Alfred Gusenbauer (former Chancellor of Austria) met with Andrew Kuchins, CSIS.
6/6/2013	Ed Kutler and Alfred Gusenbauer (former Chancellor of Austria) met with House Committee on Foreign Affairs staff.
6/24/2013	Sergiy Klyuyev, Inna Maijenska, Rob Van Der Water, Olexandr Feldman, Iryna Sekh, Oleksii Azarov, Ivan Kyrylenko, Taras Kutovyi, Alexander Sushko, Oleksii Padalko, Tetyana Tymochko, and Valentin Savitsky met with Rep. Tim Murphy and Tom Murphy (Marcellus Center for Outreach and Research at Penn State University) (arranged by Mercury).
6/24/2013	Sergiy Klyuyev, Inna Maijenska, Rob Van Der Water, Olexandr Feldman, Iryna Sekh, Oleksii Azarov, Ivan Kyrylenko, Taras Kutovyi, Alexander Sushko, Oleksii Padalko, Tetyana Tymochko, and Valentin Savitsky met with Rep. Tim Murphy, Carnegie Mayor Jack Kobitske, St. Peter and St. Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church (Mercury arranged).

6/24/2013	Sergiy Klyuyev, Inna Maievska, Rob Van Der Water, Olexandr Feldman, Iryna Sekh, Oleksii Azarov, Ivan Kyrylenko, Taras Kutovyi, Alexander Sushko, Oleksii Padalko, Tetyana Tymochko, and Valentin Savitsky met with Rep. Tim Murphy, Andrew Place (Center for Sustainable Shale Development), John Haager, and other private sector individuals (Mercury arranged).
6/24/2013	Sergiy Klyuyev, Inna Maievska, Rob Van Der Water, Olexandr Feldman, Iryna Sekh, Oleksii Azarov, Ivan Kyrylenko, Taras Kutovyi, Alexander Sushko, Oleksii Padalko, Tetyana Tymochko, and Valentin Savitsky met with the Marcellus Shale Chamber of Commerce (Mercury arranged).
6/26/2013	Sergiy Klyuyev and Mike McSherry attended meeting of the Business Council for International Understanding.
6/26/2013	Sergiy Klyuyev, Inna Maievska, Rob Van Der Water, Olexandr Feldman, Iryna Sekh, Oleksii Azarov, Ivan Kyrylenko, Taras Kutovyi, Alexander Sushko, Oleksii Padalko, Tetyana Tymochko, and Valentin Savitsky attended roundtable discussion at the Brookings Institution (Mercury arranged).
6/27/2013	Sergiy Klyuyev, Inna Maievska, Rob Van Der Water, Olexandr Feldman, Iryna Sekh, Oleksii Azarov, Ivan Kyrylenko, Taras Kutovyi, Alexander Sushko, Oleksii Padalko, Tetyana Tymochko, and Valentin Savitsky met with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Institute for 21st Century Energy (Mercury arranged).
6/27/2013	Sergiy Klyuyev met with John Schuster, US Export-Import Bank (Mercury arranged).
6/27/2013	Sergiy Klyuyev, Inna Maievska, Rob Van Der Water, Olexandr Feldman, Iryna Sekh, Oleksii Azarov, Ivan Kyrylenko, Taras Kutovyi, Alexander Sushko, Oleksii Padalko, Tetyana Tymochko and Valentin Savitsky met with the US-Ukraine Business Council (Mercury arranged).
10/30/2013	Ed Kutler met with Caleb McCarry and Jason Bruder, Senate Foreign Relations.

Media Outreach:

Christian Science Monitor

Question 14(a)

Date	From Whom	Purpose	Amount
9/19/13	ECFMU	Fee & Reimbursed Expense	\$135,860.04

Question 15(a)

Date	To Whom	Purpose	Amount
May/Aug 2013	N/A	Mercury travel & meals	\$3,175.70
June 24, 2013	Tom Murphy	Speaker honorarium	\$1,950

Question 15c

KUTLER, EDWARD S.	COLUMBIA MD	2104 CAMT, DAVID LEE VIA DAVE CAMT FOR CONGRESS	9/4/2013	900
KUTLER, EDWARD S.	COLUMBIA MD	2104 KUTHERLAND, WILLIAM STEVE VIA KUTHERLAND FOR CONGRESS	3/6/2013	250
KUTLER, EDWARD S.	COLUMBIA MD	2104 DAVIS, ROONEY L VIA ROONEY FOR CONGRESS	5/16/2013	250
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA MD	2104 COFFMAN, MERRILL VIA COFFMAN FOR CONGRESS	5/21/2013	250
MCHEERY, MICHAEL	ALEXANDRIA VA	2212 RYAN, PAUL D VIA RYAN FOR CONGRESS INC.	8/28/2013	500
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA VA	2208 RYAN, PAUL D VIA RYAN FOR CONGRESS INC.	5/28/2013	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA MD	2104 YOUNG, TODD CHRISTOPHER VIA FRIENDS OF TODD YOUNG INC.	5/31/2013	500
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA MD	2104 RUZICKA, WILLIAM F VIA RUZICKA FOR CONGRESS	6/4/2013	250
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA MD	2104 DENHAM, JEFF VIA DENHAM FOR CONGRESS	6/6/2013	250
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA MD	2104 HICK, JOE VIA FRIENDS OF JOE HICK CONGRESS	6/6/2013	250
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL MR.	COLUMBIA MD	2104 WALORSKI, EDWARD JACKIE VIA WALORSKI FOR CONGRESS INC.	6/6/2013	250
KUTLER, EDWARD S.	COLUMBIA MD	2104 FITZPATRICK, MICHAEL H VIA FITZPATRICK FOR CONGRESS	6/7/2013	250
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA MD	2104 PAULSEN, ERIC MR. VIA FRIENDS OF ERIC PAULSEN	6/10/2013	500
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA MD	2104 YOUNG, TODD CHRISTOPHER VIA FRIENDS OF TODD YOUNG INC.	6/10/2013	500
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA MD	2104 JOYCE, DAVID F VIA FRIENDS OF DAVE JOYCE	6/14/2013	250
KUTLER, EDWARD S.	COLUMBIA MD	2104 ANTOY, KELLY A VIA FRIENDS OF KELLY ANTOY INC.	6/14/2013	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA MD	2104 GIBBS, ROBERT VIA GIBBS FOR CONGRESS	6/19/2013	250
KUTLER, EDWARD S.	COLUMBIA MD	2104 BRADY, KEVIN VIA BRADY FOR CONGRESS	6/17/2013	500
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA MD	2104 VALADAO, DAVID VIA VALADAO FOR CONGRESS	6/17/2013	250
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA MD	2104 BORDEN, MIKE VIA BORDEN FOR SENATE	6/18/2013	250
MCHEERY, MICHAEL	ALEXANDRIA VA	2212 ROYCE, ED MR. VIA ROYCE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE	6/21/2013	500
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA VA	2208 ROYCE, ED MR. VIA ROYCE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE	6/21/2013	2000
KUTLER, EDWARD S.	COLUMBIA MD	2104 GIBSON, CHRISTOPHER F VIA CHAS GIBSON FOR CONGRESS	6/22/2013	250
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL MR.	COLUMBIA MD	2104 ROSENBERG, FOR SPEAKER	6/24/2013	3500
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA MD	2104 TRUMP, JOHN VIA FRIENDS OF JOHN TRUMP	6/28/2013	1000
MCHEERY, MICHAEL	ALEXANDRIA VA	2212 YOUNG, DAVID VIA YOUNG FOR IOWA, INC.	6/28/2013	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD S.	COLUMBIA MD	2104 ROUSSEY, CHARLES W JR OR VIA ROUSSEY FOR SENATE INC.	6/30/2013	500
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL MR.	COLUMBIA MD	2104 ROSENBERG, JOHN A. VIA FRIENDS OF JOHN ROSENBERG	6/30/2013	1100
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL MR.	COLUMBIA MD	2104 ROSENBERG, JOHN A. VIA FRIENDS OF JOHN ROSENBERG	6/30/2013	2000
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA VA	2208 MCCARDEN, MICHAEL VIA MCCARDEN FOR SENATE	6/30/2013	500
KUTLER, EDWARD S.	COLUMBIA MD	2104 EVERY REPUBLICAN IS CRUCIAL (ERIC PAC)	7/3/2013	1500
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA MD	2104 FORTMAN, ROB VIA FORTMAN FOR SENATE COMMITTEE	7/8/2013	400
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA MD	2104 FORTMAN, ROB VIA FORTMAN FOR SENATE COMMITTEE	7/8/2013	500
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA MD	2104 RYAN, PAUL D VIA RYAN FOR CONGRESS INC.	7/15/2013	500
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA MD	2104 RYAN, PAUL D VIA RYAN FOR CONGRESS INC.	7/15/2013	500
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA MD	2104 RYAN, PAUL D VIA RYAN FOR CONGRESS INC.	7/26/2013	500
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL MR.	COLUMBIA MD	2104 NECC	7/31/2013	250
MCHEERY, MICHAEL T.	ALEXANDRIA VA	2212 GOODLATE, ROBERT W. VIA BOB GOODLATE FOR CONGRESS COMMITTEE	7/31/2013	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA MD	2104 JENKINS, LYNN VIA LEAD YOUR NATION NOW PAC (LYNN PAC)	8/1/2013	500
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA VA	2208 MCCONNELL, FOR NIN LEADERSHIP VICTORY COMMITTEE	8/1/2013	2000
KUTLER, EDWARD S MR.	COLUMBIA MD	2104 MURPHY, TIMOTHY VIA TIM MURPHY FOR CONGRESS	8/3/2013	500
MCHEERY, MICHAEL T MR.	ALEXANDRIA VA	2212 MURPHY, TIMOTHY VIA TIM MURPHY FOR CONGRESS	8/3/2013	500
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA VA	2208 ROSENBERG, JOHN A. VIA FRIENDS OF JOHN ROSENBERG	8/27/2013	2000
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA VA	2208 ROSENBERG, JOHN A. VIA FRIENDS OF JOHN ROSENBERG	8/27/2013	2000
WEBER, VIN	WALKER MN	50484 SUMMER, THOMAS EARL JR VIA SUMMER FOR CONGRESS	9/20/2013	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA MD	2104 MCCARTHY, KEVIN VIA KEVIN MCCARTHY FOR CONGRESS	9/25/2013	1500
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA VA	2208 PAULSEN, ERIC MR. VIA FRIENDS OF ERIC PAULSEN	9/26/2013	1000
MCHEERY, MICHAEL T.	ALEXANDRIA VA	2212 MARINO, THOMAS ANTHONY VIA MARINO FOR CONGRESS	9/27/2013	500
WEBER, VINCENT	ALEXANDRIA VA	2208 MARINO, THOMAS ANTHONY VIA MARINO FOR CONGRESS	9/27/2013	500
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA MD	2104 HUTTON, FREDERICK STEPHEN VIA HUTTON FOR ALL OF US	9/28/2013	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA MD	2104 SCALES, STEVE MR VIA SCALES FOR CONGRESS	9/30/2013	500
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL MR.	COLUMBIA MD	2104 MCCONNELL, MITCH VIA MCCONNELL SENATE COMMITTEE	9/30/2013	500
MCHEERY, MICHAEL	ALEXANDRIA VA	2212 MCCONNELL, MITCH VIA MCCONNELL SENATE COMMITTEE	9/30/2013	500
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA VA	2208 WALTERS, RONALD NEAL JR VIA WALTERS FOR CONGRESS	9/30/2013	1000
WEBER, VIN MR.	ALEXANDRIA VA	2208 MCCONNELL, MITCH VIA MCCONNELL SENATE COMMITTEE	9/30/2013	1000
WEBER, VIN MR.	ALEXANDRIA VA	2208 MCCONNELL, MITCH VIA MCCONNELL SENATE COMMITTEE	9/30/2013	400
WEBER, VIN MR.	ALEXANDRIA VA	2208 MCCONNELL, MITCH VIA MCCONNELL SENATE COMMITTEE	9/30/2013	1000
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA VA	2208 ROSENBERG, FOR SPEAKER	10/1/2013	5000
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA MD	2104 JENKINS, LYNN VIA LYNN JENKINS FOR CONGRESS	10/23/2013	500
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA VA	2208 ROSENBERG, JOHN A. VIA FRIENDS OF JOHN ROSENBERG	10/30/2013	200
WEBER, VIN MR.	ALEXANDRIA VA	2208 NECC	10/31/2013	6000

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OMB No. 1124-0006; Expires April 30, 2017

U.S. Department of Justice
Washington, DC 20530

Exhibit A to Registration Statement
Pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of
1938, as amended

INSTRUCTIONS. Furnish this exhibit for EACH foreign principal listed in an initial statement and for EACH additional foreign principal acquired subsequently. The filing of this document requires the payment of a filing fee as set forth in Rule (d)(1), 28 C.F.R. § 5.5(d)(1). Compliance is accomplished by filing an electronic Exhibit A form at <http://www.fara.gov>.

Privacy Act Statement. The filing of this document is required by the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. § 611 *et seq.*, for the purposes of registration under the Act and public disclosure. Provision of the information requested is mandatory, and failure to provide this information is subject to the penalty and enforcement provisions established in Section 8 of the Act. Every registration statement, short form registration statement, supplemental statement, exhibit, amendment, copy of informational materials or other document or information filed with the Attorney General under this Act is a public record open to public examination, inspection and copying during the posted business hours of the Registration Unit in Washington, DC. Statements are also available online at the Registration Unit's webpage: <http://www.fara.gov>. One copy of every such document, other than informational materials, is automatically provided to the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act, and copies of any and all documents are routinely made available to other agencies, departments and Congress pursuant to Section 6(c) of the Act. The Attorney General also transmits a semi-annual report to Congress on the administration of the Act which lists the names of all agents registered under the Act and the foreign principals they represent. This report is available to the public in print and online at: <http://www.fara.gov>.

Public Reporting Burden. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .49 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Chief, Registration Unit, Counterespionage Section, National Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530; and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

1. Name and Address of Registrant Mercury Public Affairs, LLC / dba Mercury/Clark & Weinstock 701 8th Street NW, Suite 650 Washington, DC 20001	2. Registration No. 6170
--	---------------------------------

3. Name of Foreign Principal European Centre For a Modern Ukraine	4. Principal Address of Foreign Principal 14 Rue de la Science, 1040 Brussels, Belgium
--	--

5. Indicate whether your foreign principal is one of the following:

- ☐ Government of a foreign country
☐ Foreign political party
☒ Foreign or domestic organization: If either, check one of the following:
☐ Partnership
☐ Corporation
☐ Association
☐ Individual-State nationality
☐ Committee
☐ Voluntary group
☒ Other (specify) non-governmental organization

6. If the foreign principal is a foreign government, state:

- a) Branch or agency represented by the registrant

b) Name and title of official with whom registrant deals

7. If the foreign principal is a foreign political party, state:

- a) Principal address

b) Name and title of official with whom registrant deals

c) Principal aim

1 "Government of a foreign country," as defined in Section 1(a) of the Act, includes any person or group of persons exercising sovereign de facto or de jure political jurisdiction over any country, other than the United States, or over any part of such country, and includes any subdivision of any such group and any group or agency to which such sovereign de facto or de jure authority or functions are directly or indirectly delegated. Such term shall include any faction or body of insurgents within a country assuming to exercise governmental authority whether such faction or body of insurgents has or has not been recognized by the United States.

8. If the foreign principal is not a foreign government or a foreign political party:

a) State the nature of the business or activity of this foreign principal.

The European Centre for a Modern Ukraine is a non-governmental organization whose mission is to improve ties between Ukraine and Western countries by promoting the admission of Ukraine into the European Union and aligning with other Western institutions.

b) Is this foreign principal:

Supervised by a foreign government, foreign political party, or other foreign principal	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Owned by a foreign government, foreign political party, or other foreign principal	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Directed by a foreign government, foreign political party, or other foreign principal	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Controlled by a foreign government, foreign political party, or other foreign principal	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Financed by a foreign government, foreign political party, or other foreign principal	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Subsidized in part by a foreign government, foreign political party, or other foreign principal	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

9. Explain fully all items answered "Yes" in Item 8(b). (If additional space is needed, a full insert page must be used.)

Prior to engagement, Ina Kirsch, Executive Director of the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine, provided written certification to the Registrant that "none of the activities are directly or indirectly supervised, directed, controlled, financed, or subsidized in whole or in major part by a government of a foreign country or a foreign political party." Furthermore, Ms. Kirsch attested that the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine would immediately inform the Registrant should that representation no longer be true and correct. Neither Ms. Kirsch nor any representative of the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine ever informed the Registrant that the signed certification was no longer accurate. The Registrant has no direct knowledge of the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine's source of funding. It was also represented to the Registrant that the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine was controlled by individual foreign principals who collectively controlled the Centre.

10. If the foreign principal is an organization and is not owned or controlled by a foreign government, foreign political party or other foreign principal, state who owns and controls it.

See above.

EXECUTION

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746, the undersigned swears or affirms under penalty of perjury that he/she has read the information set forth in this Exhibit A to the registration statement and that he/she is familiar with the contents thereof and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her knowledge and belief.

Date of Exhibit A	Name and Title	Signature
April 28, 2017	John Vincent Weber, Partner	/s/ John Vincent Weber eSigned

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OMB No. 1124-0004; Expires April 30, 2017

U.S. Department of Justice
Washington, DC 20530

Exhibit B to Registration Statement
Pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of
1938, as amended

INSTRUCTIONS: A registrant must furnish as an Exhibit B copies of each written agreement and the terms and conditions of each oral agreement with his foreign principal, including all modifications of such agreements, or, where no contract exists, a full statement of all the circumstances by reason of which the registrant is acting as an agent of a foreign principal. Compliance is accomplished by filing an electronic Exhibit B form at <http://www.fara.gov>.

Privacy Act Statement. The filing of this document is required for the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. § 611 *et seq.* for the purposes of registration under the Act and public disclosure. Provision of the information requested is mandatory, and failure to provide the information is subject to the penalty and enforcement provisions established in Section 8 of the Act. Every registration statement, short form registration statement, supplemental statement, exhibit, amendment, copy of informational materials or other document or information filed with the Attorney General under this Act is a public record open to public examination, inspection and copying during the posted business hours of the Registration Unit in Washington, DC. Statements are also available online at the Registration Unit's webpage: <http://www.fara.gov>. One copy of every such document, other than informational materials, is automatically provided to the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act, and copies of any and all documents are routinely made available to other agencies, departments and Congress pursuant to Section 6(c) of the Act. The Attorney General also transmits a semi-annual report to Congress on the administration of the Act which lists the names of all agents registered under the Act and the foreign principals they represent. This report is available to the public in print and online at: <http://www.fara.gov>.

Public Reporting Burden. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 33 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to Chief, Registration Unit, Counterespionage Section, National Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530; and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

1. Name of Registrant Mercury Public Affairs, LLC / dba Mercury/Clark & Weinstock	2. Registration No. 6170
3. Name of Foreign Principal European Centre For a Modern Ukraine	

Check Appropriate Box:

4. ☒ The agreement between the registrant and the above-named foreign principal is a formal written contract. If this box is checked, attach a copy of the contract to this exhibit.
5. ☐ There is no formal written contract between the registrant and the foreign principal. The agreement with the above-named foreign principal has resulted from an exchange of correspondence. If this box is checked, attach a copy of all pertinent correspondence, including a copy of any initial proposal which has been adopted by reference in such correspondence.
6. ☐ The agreement or understanding between the registrant and the foreign principal is the result of neither a formal written contract nor an exchange of correspondence between the parties. If this box is checked, give a complete description below of the terms and conditions of the oral agreement or understanding; its duration, the fees and expenses, if any, to be received.
7. Describe fully the nature and method of performance of the above indicated agreement or understanding.
Please see attachment.

8. Describe fully the activities the registrant engages in or proposes to engage in on behalf of the above foreign principal.

Please see attachment.

9. Will the activities on behalf of the above foreign principal include political activities as defined in Section 1(o) of the Act and in the footnote below? Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, describe all such political activities indicating, among other things, the relations, interests or policies to be influenced together with the means to be employed to achieve this purpose.

Please see attachment.

EXECUTION

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746, the undersigned swears or affirms under penalty of perjury that he/she has read the information set forth in this Exhibit B to the registration statement and that he/she is familiar with the contents thereof and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her knowledge and belief.

Date of Exhibit B	Name and Title	Signature	eSigned
April 28, 2017	John Vincent Weber, Partner	/s/ John Vincent Weber	

Footnote: "Political activity," as defined in Section 1(o) of the Act, means any activity which the person engaging in believes will, or that the person intends to, in any way influence any agency or official of the Government of the United States or any section of the public within the United States with reference to formulating, adopting, or changing the domestic or foreign policies of the United States or with reference to the political or public interests, policies, or relations of a government of a foreign country or a foreign political party.

ENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT

Dated April 18, 2012

THIS ENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT ("Agreement") is effective this April 18, 2012, by and between the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine, ("Client") having its principal office located at 14 Rue de la Science, 1040 Brussels, Belgium, and Mercury Public Affairs, LLC, 137 Fifth Avenue, 3rd Floor, New York, NY 10010, d/b/a Mercury / Clark & Weinstock, having its principal office located at 701 8th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001, ("the Provider").

WHEREAS, Client wishes to have the Provider performing the services hereinafter referred to, and

WHEREAS, the Provider is willing to perform these services,

NOW THEREFORE THE PARTIES hereby agree as follows:

Services

The Provider shall perform services to assist the Client in strengthening its ties to various organizations in the United States. The Provider shall achieve objectives through a combination of policy and communications expertise, as well as other services that may be agreed by the Parties in writing, ("the Services").

Term

The Provider shall perform the Services during the period commencing on April 18, 2012 and continuing through the term, the date of termination, or any other period, as may be subsequently agreed by the parties in writing.

Payment

Client shall pay the Provider an amount as mutually agreed by the parties for services rendered, plus pre-approved expenses for travel. Client shall pay Provider by wire transfer in advance of each month, including the beginning of the term of this Agreement. The payment of the expenses shall be performed upon prior written consent of Client. Pre-approved expenses shall be invoiced each month and paid with the fees due for the following period.

Client's Representative

Client designates Ms. Ina Kirsch as its representative. The representative shall be responsible for the coordination of activities under this Agreement.

Performance Standard

The Provider undertakes to perform the Services with the highest standards of professional and ethical competence and integrity.

Confidentiality

The Providers shall not, during the term of this Agreement and within two years after its expiration, disclose any proprietary or confidential information relating to the Services, this Agreement or ECFMU business or operations without the prior written consent of ECFMU.

Ownership of Material

Any studies, reports, opinions or other material, or otherwise, prepared by the Provider for Client under the Agreement shall belong to and remain the property of Client. The Provider may retain a copy of such documents and software.

Governing Law and Language

The Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the District of Columbia and the United States of America, and the language of the Agreement shall be English.

Termination

Either Party may terminate this Agreement with at least 60 days prior written notice to each other. Payment for services shall be made through the date of the termination.


Amendment

This Agreement may not be modified or amended except by an instrument in writing by the parties hereto.


For the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine

Name (print): Ina Kirsch

Date: 30.4.2012


For Mercury Public Affairs, LLC
d/b/a Clark Weinstock

Name (print): Vin. Weber

Date: May 7, 2012

AGREEMENT

In consideration of services to be rendered by Mercury, Clark, Weinstock:

1. The European Centre for a Modern Ukraine ("the Centre") does represent and certify the following to be true and correct:
 - a. The Centre is "a partnership, association, corporation, organization, or other combination of persons organized under the laws of or having its principal place of business in a foreign country."
 - b. None of the activities of the Centre are directly or indirectly supervised, directed, controlled, financed, or subsidized in whole or in major part by a government of a foreign country or a foreign political party.
2. Should the representations made under Paragraph 1 no longer be true and correct, or should the facts underlying the representations change, the Centre agrees to inform the Mercury, Clark, Weinstock immediately.

For the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine:


Ms. Ina Kirsch, Executive Director

30.4.2012
Date

***Attachment to registration: Description of FARA Activity
Responses to Exhibit B - Questions 7,8,9***

The European Centre for a Modern Ukraine (ECFMU) engaged Mercury/Clark & Weinstock, now Mercury Public Affairs, (Mercury) in the second quarter of 2012 to represent it in promoting closer ties between Ukraine and the West – principally, the European Union (EU) and the United States. The goals included Ukraine's entry into the EU, the signing and ratification of the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the EU, and the ratification of the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area agreement.

Mercury sought to facilitate opportunities for engagement on Ukrainian political developments and reforms for American elected officials, opinion leaders, the media and civil society organizations. Specifically, Mercury worked to highlight the work of the Ukrainian government to align with western democracies generally, and the EU specifically, on security, political and economic issues. To accomplish this goal, Mercury set up educational events and meetings for members of Congress and staff, think tanks and other non-governmental organizations, and the media. Speakers at these events included Ukrainian government officials and other experts on Ukraine and the EU, including Aleksander Kwasniewski, former president of Poland, Alfred Gusenbauer, former Chancellor of Austria, and Romano Prodi, former Prime Minister of Italy. Mercury employees themselves provided similar briefings. Mercury also contacted members of the media to provide them information about Ukraine, its election and its reforms in the hope that the media would cover these topics.

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OMB No. 1124-0003; Expires April 30, 2017

U.S. Department of Justice
Washington, DC 20530

**Amendment to Registration Statement
Pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of
1938, as amended**

INSTRUCTIONS. File this amendment form for any changes to a registration. Compliance is accomplished by filing an electronic amendment to registration statement and uploading any supporting documents at <http://www.fara.gov>.

Privacy Act Statement. The filing of this document is required for the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. § 611 et seq., for the purposes of registration under this Act and public disclosure. Provision of the information requested is mandatory, and failure to provide the information is subject to the penalty and enforcement provisions established in Section 8 of the Act. Every registration statement, short form registration statement, supplemental statement, exhibit, amendment, copy of informational materials or other document or information filed with the Attorney General under this Act is a public record open to public examination, inspection and copying during the posted business hours of the Registration Unit in Washington, DC. Statements are also available online at the Registration Unit's webpage: <http://www.fara.gov>. One copy of every such document, other than informational materials, is automatically provided to the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act, and copies of any and all documents are routinely made available to other agencies, departments and Congress pursuant to Section 6(c) of the Act. The Attorney General also transmits a semi-annual report to Congress on the administration of the Act which lists the names of all agents registered under the Act and the foreign principals they represent. This report is available to the public in print and online at: <http://www.fara.gov>.

Public Reporting Burden. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1.5 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to Chief, Registration Unit, Counterespionage Section, National Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530; and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

1. Name of Registrant	2. Registration No.
Mercury Public Affairs, LLC / dba Mercury/Clark & Weinstock	6170

3. This amendment is filed to accomplish the following indicated purpose or purposes:

- ☐ To give a 10-day notice of change in information as required by Section 2(b) of the Act.
- ☐ To correct a deficiency in
- ☐ Initial Statement
- ☐ Supplemental Statement for the period ending _____
- ☐ Other purpose (specify) _____
- ☒ To give notice of change in an exhibit previously filed.

4. If this amendment requires the filing of a document or documents, please list:
Supplemental form through May 8, 2014.

5. Each item checked above must be explained below in full detail together with, where appropriate, specific reference to and identity of the item in the registration statement to which it pertains. (If space is insufficient, a full insert page must be used.)

This amendment is being filed to indicate that all registrable activities performed on behalf of the foreign principal, European Centre For a Modern Ukraine, ceased as of May 8, 2014. All reportable activity related to this engagement that was performed since the end date of our last filed supplemental report will be included on the attached supplemental statement covering activity through May 8, 2014.

EXECUTION

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746, the undersigned swear(s) or affirm(s) under penalty of perjury that he/she has (they have) read the information set forth in this registration statement and the attached exhibits and that he/she is (they are) familiar with the contents thereof and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her (their) knowledge and belief, except that the undersigned make(s) no representation as to the truth or accuracy of the information contained in the attached Short Form Registration Statement(s), if any, insofar as such information is not within his/her (their) personal knowledge.

(Date of signature)

(Print or type name under each signature or provide electronic signature¹)

April 28, 2017

/s/ John Vincent Weber

eSigned

¹ This statement shall be signed by the individual agent, if the registrant is an individual, or by a majority of those partners, officers, directors or persons performing similar functions, if the registrant is an organization, except that the organization can, by power of attorney, authorize one or more individuals to execute this statement on its behalf.

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OMB No. 1124-0002; Expires April 30, 2017

U.S. Department of Justice

Washington, DC 20530

Supplemental Statement

**Pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of
1938, as amended**

For Six Month Period Ending 4/30/14

(Insert date)

I - REGISTRANT

1. (a) Name of Registrant

(b) Registration No.

Mercury Public Affairs, LLC / dba Mercury/Clark & Welch 6170

(c) Business Address(es) of Registrant

701 8th Street NW, Suite 650

Washington, DC 20001

2. Has there been a change in the information previously furnished in connection with the following?

(a) If an individual:

(1) Residence address(es)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
(2) Citizenship	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
(3) Occupation	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

(b) If an organization:

(1) Name	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(2) Ownership or control	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(3) Branch offices	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

(c) Explain fully all changes, if any, indicated in items (a) and (b) above.

Registrant opened a new local office in Dunmore, PA.

IF THE REGISTRANT IS AN INDIVIDUAL, OMIT RESPONSE TO ITEMS 3, 4, AND 5(a).

3. If you have previously filed Exhibit C¹, state whether any changes therein have occurred during this 6 month reporting period.

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, have you filed an amendment to the Exhibit C? Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, please attach the required amendment.

¹ The Exhibit C, for which no printed form is provided, consists of a true copy of the charter, articles of incorporation, association, and by laws of a registrant that is an organization. (A waiver of the requirement to file an Exhibit C may be obtained for good cause upon written application to the Assistant Attorney General, National Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530.)

4. (a) Have any persons ceased acting as partners, officers, directors or similar officials of the registrant during this 6 month reporting period?Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Position	Date Connection Ended
None		

(b) Have any persons become partners, officers, directors or similar officials during this 6 month reporting period?Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Residence Address	Citizenship	Position	Date Assumed
None				

5. (a) Has any person named in Item 4(b) rendered services directly in furtherance of the interests of any foreign principal?Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, identify each such person and describe the service rendered.

None

(b) During this six month reporting period, has the registrant hired as employees or in any other capacity, any persons who rendered or will render services to the registrant directly in furtherance of the interests of any foreign principal(s) in other than a clerical or secretarial, or in a related or similar capacity?Yes ☐ No ☒

Name	Residence Address	Citizenship	Position	Date Assumed
None				

(c) Have any employees or individuals, who have filed a short form registration statement, terminated their employment or connection with the registrant during this 6 month reporting period?Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Position or Connection	Date Terminated
None		

(d) Have any employees or individuals, who have filed a short form registration statement, terminated their connection with any foreign principal during this 6 month reporting period?Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Position or Connection	Foreign Principal	Date Terminated
None			

6. Have short form registration statements been filed by all of the persons named in Items 5(a) and 5(b) of the supplemental statement?Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, list names of persons who have not filed the required statement.

None

II - FOREIGN PRINCIPAL

7. Has your connection with any foreign principal ended during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Foreign Principal

Date of Termination

8. Have you acquired any new foreign principal(s)² during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name and Address of Foreign Principal(s)

Date Acquired

9. In addition to those named in Items 7 and 8, if any, list foreign principal(s)² whom you continued to represent during the 6 month reporting period.

European Centre For a Modern Ukraine

10. (a) Have you filed exhibits for the newly acquired foreign principal(s), if any, listed in Item 8?

Exhibit A³ Yes ☐ No ☐

Exhibit B⁴ Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, please attach the required exhibit.

- (b) Have there been any changes in the Exhibits A and B previously filed for any foreign principal whom you represented during this six month period? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, have you filed an amendment to these exhibits? Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, please attach the required amendment.

² The term "foreign principal" includes, in addition to those defined in Section 1(b) of the Act, an individual organization any of whose activities are directly or indirectly supervised, directed, controlled, financed, or subsidized in whole or in major part by a foreign government, foreign political party, foreign organization or foreign individual. (See Rule 100(a) (9)). A registrant who represents more than one foreign principal is required to list in the statements he files under the Act only those principals for whom he is not entitled to claim exemption under Section 3 of the Act. (See Rule 203.)

³ The Exhibit A, which is filed on Form NSD-3, sets forth the information required to be disclosed concerning each foreign principal.

⁴ The Exhibit B, which is filed on Form NSD-4, sets forth the information concerning the agreement or understanding between the registrant and the foreign principal.

III - ACTIVITIES

11. During this 6 month reporting period, have you engaged in any activities for or rendered any services to any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement? Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, identify each foreign principal and describe in full detail your activities and services:

Please see attachment.

12. During this 6 month reporting period, have you on behalf of any foreign principal engaged in political activity³ as defined below? Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, identify each such foreign principal and describe in full detail all such political activity, indicating, among other things, the relations, interests and policies sought to be influenced and the means employed to achieve this purpose. If the registrant arranged, sponsored or delivered speeches, lectures or radio and TV broadcasts, give details as to dates, places of delivery, names of speakers and subject matter.

Please see attachment.

13. In addition to the above-described activities, if any, have you engaged in activity on your own behalf which benefits your foreign principal(s)? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, describe fully.

³ "Political activity," as defined in Section 1(o) of the Act, means any activity that the person engaging in believes will, or that the person intends to, in any way influence any agency or official of the Government of the United States or any section of the public within the United States with reference to formulating, adopting or changing the domestic or foreign policies of the United States or with reference to political or public interests, policies or relations of a Government or a political party.

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IV - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

14. (a) RECEIPTS-MONIES

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received from any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement, or from any other source, for or in the interests of any such foreign principal, any contributions, income or money either as compensation or otherwise? Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, explain why.

If yes, set forth below in the required detail and separately for each foreign principal an account of such monies.⁶

Date	From Whom	Purpose	Amount
Please see attachment.			

\$354,479.47

Total

(b) RECEIPTS - FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received, as part of a fundraising campaign⁷, any money on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, have you filed an Exhibit D⁸ to your registration? Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, indicate the date the Exhibit D was filed. Date _____

(c) RECEIPTS-THINGS OF VALUE

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received any thing of value⁹ other than money from any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement, or from any other source, for or in the interests of any such foreign principal?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Foreign Principal	Date Received	Thing of Value	Purpose
-------------------	---------------	----------------	---------

^{6, 7} A registrant is required to file an Exhibit D if he collects or receives contributions, loans, moneys, or other things of value for a foreign principal, as part of a fundraising campaign. (See Rule 201(e)).

⁸ An Exhibit D, for which no printed form is provided, sets forth an account of money collected or received as a result of a fundraising campaign and transmitted for a foreign principal.

⁹ Things of value include but are not limited to gifts, interest free loans, expense free travel, favored stock purchases, exclusive rights, favored treatment over competitors, "kickbacks," and the like.

15. (a) **DISBURSEMENTS-MONIES**

During this 6 month reporting period, have you

(1) disbursed or expended monies in connection with activity on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement? Yes ☒ No ☐

(2) transmitted monies to any such foreign principal? Yes ☐ No ☒

If no, explain in full detail why there were no disbursements made on behalf of any foreign principal.

If yes, set forth below in the required detail and separately for each foreign principal an account of such monies, including monies transmitted, if any, to each foreign principal.

Date	To Whom	Purpose	Amount
Please see attachment.			

\$143.09

Total

1604446772

(b) **DISBURSEMENTS-THINGS OF VALUE**

During this 6 month reporting period, have you disposed of anything of value¹⁰ other than money in furtherance of or in connection with activities on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Date	Recipient	Foreign Principal	Thing of Value	Purpose
------	-----------	-------------------	----------------	---------

(c) **DISBURSEMENTS-POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS**

During this 6 month reporting period, have you from your own funds and on your own behalf either directly or through any other person, made any contributions of money or other things of value¹¹ in connection with an election to any political office, or in connection with any primary election, convention, or caucus held to select candidates for political office?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If yes, furnish the following information:

Date	Amount or Thing of Value	Political Organization or Candidate	Location of Event
------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------

Please see attachment.

10, 11 Things of value include but are not limited to gifts, interest free loans, expense free travel, favored stock purchases, exclusive rights, favored treatment over competitors, "kickbacks," and the like.

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V - INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

16. (a) During this 6 month reporting period, did you prepare, disseminate or cause to be disseminated any informational materials?¹²Yes ☒ No ☐

If Yes, go to Item 17.

(b) If you answered No to Item 16(a), do you disseminate any material in connection with your registration?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If Yes, please forward the materials disseminated during the six month period to the Registration Unit for review.

17. Identify each such foreign principal:

European Centre For a Modern Ukraine

18. During this 6 month reporting period, has any foreign principal established a budget or allocated a specified sum of money to finance your activities in preparing or disseminating informational materials? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, identify each such foreign principal, specify amount, and indicate for what period of time.

19. During this 6 month reporting period, did your activities in preparing, disseminating or causing the dissemination of informational materials include the use of any of the following:

- ☐ Radio or TV broadcasts ☐ Magazine or newspaper ☐ Motion picture films ☐ Letters or telegrams
☐ Advertising campaigns ☐ Press releases ☐ Pamphlets or other publications ☐ Lectures or speeches
☐ Other (specify) _____

Electronic Communications

☒ Email☐ Website URL(s): _____☐ Social media websites URL(s): _____☐ Other (specify) _____

20. During this 6 month reporting period, did you disseminate or cause to be disseminated informational materials among any of the following groups:

- ☒ Public officials ☒ Newspapers ☐ Libraries
☒ Legislators ☒ Editors ☐ Educational institutions
☒ Government agencies ☒ Civic groups or associations ☐ Nationality groups
☐ Other (specify) _____

21. What language was used in the informational materials:

☒ English☐ Other (specify) _____22. Did you file with the Registration Unit, U.S. Department of Justice a copy of each item of such informational materials disseminated or caused to be disseminated during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☐ No ☒

23. Did you label each item of such informational materials with the statement required by Section 4(b) of the Act?

Yes ☐ No ☒

¹² The term informational materials includes any oral, visual, graphic, written, or pictorial information or matter of any kind, including that published by means of advertising, books, periodicals, newspapers, lectures, broadcasts, motion pictures, or any means or instrumentality of interstate or foreign commerce or otherwise. Informational materials disseminated by an agent of a foreign principal as part of an activity in itself exempt from registration, or an activity which by itself would not require registration, need not be filed pursuant to Section 4(b) of the Act.

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VI - EXECUTION

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746, the undersigned swear(s) or affirm(s) under penalty of perjury that he/she has (they have) read the information set forth in this registration statement and the attached exhibits and that he/she is (they are) familiar with the contents thereof and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her (their) knowledge and belief, except that the undersigned make(s) no representation as to truth or accuracy of the information contained in the attached Short Form Registration Statement(s), if any, insofar as such information is not within his/her (their) personal knowledge.

(Date of signature)

(Print or type name under each signature or provide electronic signature¹³)

April 28, 2017

/s/ John Vincent Weber

eSigned

¹³ This statement shall be signed by the individual agent, if the registrant is an individual, or by a majority of those partners, officers, directors or persons performing similar functions, if the registrant is an organization, except that the organization can, by power of attorney, authorize one or more individuals to execute this statement on its behalf.

Through April 2014

Question 11

Mercury provided U.S. government affairs and public relations work to the ECFMU to advance its goals of greater political and economic alignment between Ukraine and the West. Mercury communicated and arranged meeting with members of Congress and staff, non-governmental organizations such as think tanks, and the media.

Question 12

NOTE: This is a retroactive filing dating back more than three years and some of the individuals who worked on the engagement are no longer employed by the registrant. Nevertheless, Mercury has undertaken reasonable due diligence, including a thorough review of its existing records, to produce as accurate a log of communications as possible to the best of its recollection and knowledge.

Log of Communications with U.S. Government and NGOs

Date	Description of Activity
11/12/2013	Mercury employee(s) spoke with Sarah Blocher and Doug Seay, House Foreign Affairs committee.
11/12/2013	Vin Weber, Mike McSherry, and Ed Kutler spoke with Mike Stransky, Sen. Barrasso's office.
11/12/2013	Ed Kutler and Mike McSherry spoke with Deborah Weigel, Sen. Johnson's office.
11/13/2013	Vin Weber, Ed Kutler, and Mike McSherry met with Caleb McCaffy and Daniel Vajdich, Senate Foreign Relations.
11/13/2013	Vin Weber, Ed Kutler and Mike McSherry met with Sen. Risch.
11/13/2013	Vin Weber, Ed Kutler and Mike McSherry met with Ben Sindholm, Sen. Flake's office.

Question 14(a)

Date	From Whom	Purpose	Amount
11/1/13	ECFMU	Fee & Reimbursed Expense	\$135,860.04
3/31/14	ECFMU	Fee & Reimbursed Expense	\$27,871.88
3/31/14	ECFMU	Fee	\$45,000
3/31/14	ECFMU	Fee & Reimbursed Expense	\$47,144
3/31/14	ECFMU	Fee & Reimbursed Expense	\$15,623.62
4/7/14	ECFMU	Fee & Reimbursed Expense	\$20,819.81
4/7/14	ECFMU	Fee & Reimbursed Expense	\$17,160.12
4/7/14	ECFMU	Fee	\$45,000

Question 15(a)

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Date	To Whom	Purpose	Amount
Nov 2013	N/A	Mercury travel & meals	\$32
Feb 2014	N/A	Mercury travel & meals	\$53.82
April 2014	N/A	Mercury travel & meals	\$57.27

Question 15c

KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 LANCE, LEONARD VIA LANCE FOR CONGRESS	11/21/2013	250
KUTLER, EDWARD S MR	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 RUSCH, JAMES S VIA JIM RUSCH FOR US SENATE COMMITTEE	12/4/2013	1000
MCBERRY, MICHAEL T MR	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22512 RUSCH, JAMES S VIA JIM RUSCH FOR US SENATE COMMITTEE	12/4/2013	1000
WEBER, VIN MR	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22108 RUSCH, JAMES S VIA JIM RUSCH FOR US SENATE COMMITTEE	12/4/2013	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD S	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 REPUBLICAN OPERATION TO SECURE AND KEEP A MAJORITY (ROSEAMTAC)	12/5/2013	2500
KUTLER, EDWARD S	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 WALDEN, ORRORY E MR VIA WALDEN FOR CONGRESS	12/6/2013	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD S	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 EVERY REPUBLICAN IS CRUCIAL (ERICAC)	12/6/2013	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 DARNES, STEVEN VIA STEVE DARNES FOR MONTANA	12/22/2013	1000
MCBERRY, MICHAEL T	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22312 DARNES, STEVEN VIA STEVE DARNES FOR MONTANA	12/21/2013	1000
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22308 ROUNDS, MIKE VIA ROUNDS FOR SENATE	12/31/2013	500
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL MR	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 NRCC	1/20/2014	5000
MCBERRY, MICHAEL T MR	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22312 COMSTOCK, BARBARA VIA COMSTOCK FOR CONGRESS	2/3/2014	500
KUTLER, EDWARD S	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 BENTHEK, DANIEL A VIA BENTHEK FOR CONGRESS INC	2/7/2014	500
KUTLER, EDWARD S	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 KELLY, DAVID W VIA FRIENDS OF DAVID KELLY	2/13/2014	250
MCBERRY, MICHAEL T	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22312 KELLY, DAVID W VIA FRIENDS OF DAVID KELLY	2/13/2014	250
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL MR	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 NRCC	2/18/2014	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL MR	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 NRCC	2/21/2014	1250
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 GILLESPIE, EDWARD W VIA ED GILLESPIE FOR SENATE	2/26/2014	500
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 ROYCE, ED MR VIA ROYCE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE	2/27/2014	500
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 ROYCE, ED MR VIA ROYCE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE	2/27/2014	1100
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22048 CORNYN, JOHN VIA TEXANS FOR SENATOR JOHN CORNYN INC	2/27/2014	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA	MD	21048 SHUCKLE, JOHN M VIA VOLUNTEERS FOR SHUCKLE	3/12/2014	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL MR	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 NRCC	3/20/2014	1000
WEBER, JOHN (VIN)	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22108 STEFANIK, ELISHA VIA ELISE FOR CONGRESS	3/24/2014	1000
KUTLER, EDWARD SAMUEL	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 SCALISE, STEVE MR VIA SCALISE FOR CONGRESS	3/31/2014	1000
MCBERRY, MICHAEL	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22312 SCALISE, STEVE MR VIA SCALISE FOR CONGRESS	3/31/2014	500
KUTLER, EDWARD S	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 BENTHEK, DANIEL A VIA BENTHEK FOR CONGRESS INC	4/2/2014	500
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22008 RYAN, PAUL D VIA RYAN FOR CONGRESS INC	4/2/2014	2500
WEBER, VIN	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22008 RYAN, PAUL D VIA RYAN FOR CONGRESS INC	4/7/2014	2500
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 GILLESPIE, EDWARD W VIA ED GILLESPIE FOR SENATE	4/10/2014	500
MCBERRY, MICHAEL T	ALEXANDRIA	VA	22312 KELLY, DAVID W VIA FRIENDS OF DAVID KELLY	4/11/2014	250
KUTLER, EDWARD	COLUMBIA	MD	21045 KINCE, DAVID F VIA FRIENDS OF DAVID KINCE	4/22/2014	250

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OMB No. 1124-0002; Expires April 30, 2017

U.S. Department of Justice
Washington, DC 20530

**Supplemental Statement
Pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of
1938, as amended**

For Six Month Period Ending 5/8/14

(Insert date)

1 - REGISTRANT

1. (a) Name of Registrant

(b) Registration No.

Mercury Public Affairs, LLC / dba Mercury/Clark & Wells 6170

(c) Business Address(es) of Registrant
701 8th Street NW, Suite 650
Washington, DC 20001

2. Has there been a change in the information previously furnished in connection with the following?

(a) If an individual:

(1) Residence address(es)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
(2) Citizenship	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
(3) Occupation	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

(b) If an organization:

(1) Name	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(2) Ownership or control	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(3) Branch offices	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

(c) Explain fully all changes, if any, indicated in Items (a) and (b) above.

IF THE REGISTRANT IS AN INDIVIDUAL, OMIT RESPONSE TO ITEMS 3, 4, AND 5(a).

3. If you have previously filed Exhibit C¹, state whether any changes therein have occurred during this 6 month reporting period.

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, have you filed an amendment to the Exhibit C? Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, please attach the required amendment.

¹ The Exhibit C, for which no printed form is provided, consists of a true copy of the charter, articles of incorporation, association, and by laws of a registrant that is an organization. (A waiver of the requirement to file an Exhibit C may be obtained for good cause upon written application to the Assistant Attorney General, National Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530.)

4. (a) Have any persons ceased acting as partners, officers, directors or similar officials of the registrant during this 6 month reporting period?Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Position	Date Connection Ended
None		

5. (b) Have any persons become partners, officers, directors or similar officials during this 6 month reporting period?Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Residence Address	Citizenship	Position	Date Assumed
None				

5. (a) Has any person named in Item 4(b) rendered services directly in furtherance of the interests of any foreign principal?Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, identify each such person and describe the service rendered.

None

6. (b) During this six month reporting period, has the registrant hired as employees or in any other capacity, any persons who rendered or will render services to the registrant directly in furtherance of the interests of any foreign principal(s) in other than a clerical or secretarial, or in a related or similar capacity? Yes ☐ No ☒

Name	Residence Address	Citizenship	Position	Date Assumed
None				

6. (c) Have any employees or individuals, who have filed a short form registration statement, terminated their employment or connection with the registrant during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Position or Connection	Date Terminated
None		

6. (d) Have any employees or individuals, who have filed a short form registration statement, terminated their connection with any foreign principal during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Position or Connection	Foreign Principal	Date Terminated
None			

6. Have short form registration statements been filed by all of the persons named in Items 5(a) and 5(b) of the supplemental statement?Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, list names of persons who have not filed the required statement.

None

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II - FOREIGN PRINCIPAL

7. Has your connection with any foreign principal ended during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, furnish the following information:

Foreign Principal

European Centre For a Modern Ukraine

Date of Termination

5/8/14

8. Have you acquired any new foreign principal(s)² during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name and Address of Foreign Principal(s)

Date Acquired

9. In addition to those named in Items 7 and 8, if any, list foreign principal(s)² whom you continued to represent during the 6 month reporting period.

None

10. (a) Have you filed exhibits for the newly acquired foreign principal(s), if any, listed in Item 8?

Exhibit A³ Yes ☐ No ☐

Exhibit B⁴ Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, please attach the required exhibit.

- (b) Have there been any changes in the Exhibits A and B previously filed for any foreign principal whom you represented during this six month period? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, have you filed an amendment to these exhibits? Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, please attach the required amendment.

² The term "foreign principal" includes, in addition to those defined in Section 1(b) of the Act, an individual organization any of whose activities are directly or indirectly supervised, directed, controlled, financed, or subsidized in whole or in major part by a foreign government, foreign political party, foreign organization or foreign individual. (See Rule 100(a)(9)). A registrant who represents more than one foreign principal is required to list in the statements he files under the Act only those principals for whom he is not entitled to claim exemption under Section 3 of the Act. (See Rule 201.)

³ The Exhibit A, which is filed on Form NSD-3, sets forth the information required to be disclosed concerning each foreign principal.

⁴ The Exhibit B, which is filed on Form NSD-4, sets forth the information concerning the agreement or understanding between the registrant and the foreign principal.

III - ACTIVITIES

11. During this 6 month reporting period, have you engaged in any activities for or rendered any services to any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement? Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, identify each foreign principal and describe in full detail your activities and services:

Please see attachment.

12. During this 6 month reporting period, have you on behalf of any foreign principal engaged in political activity³ as defined below? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, identify each such foreign principal and describe in full detail all such political activity, indicating, among other things, the relations, interests and policies sought to be influenced and the means employed to achieve this purpose. If the registrant arranged, sponsored or delivered speeches, lectures or radio and TV broadcasts, give details as to dates, places of delivery, names of speakers and subject matter.

13. In addition to the above described activities, if any, have you engaged in activity on your own behalf which benefits your foreign principal(s)? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, describe fully.

³ "Political activity," as defined in Section 1(e) of the Act, means any activity that the person engaging in believes will, or that the person intends to, in any way influence any agency or official of the Government of the United States or any section of the public within the United States with reference to formulating, adopting or changing the domestic or foreign policies of the United States or with reference to political or public interests, policies, or relations of a government of a foreign country or a foreign political party.

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IV - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

14. (a) RECEIPTS-MONIES

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received from any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement, or from any other source, for or in the interests of any such foreign principal, any contributions, income or money either as compensation or otherwise? Yes ☐ No ☒

If no, explain why.

If yes, set forth below in the required detail and separately for each foreign principal an account of such monies.⁶

Date	From Whom	Purpose	Amount
------	-----------	---------	--------

0

Total

(b) RECEIPTS - FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received, as part of a fundraising campaign⁷, any money on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, have you filed an Exhibit D⁸ to your registration? Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, indicate the date the Exhibit D was filed.

Date _____

(c) RECEIPTS-THINGS OF VALUE

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received any thing of value⁹ other than money from any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement, or from any other source, for or in the interests of any such foreign principal?

Yes ☐No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Foreign Principal	Date Received	Thing of Value	Purpose
-------------------	---------------	----------------	---------

^{6, 7} A registrant is required to file an Exhibit D if he collects or receives contributions, loans, moneys, or other things of value for a foreign principal, as part of a fundraising campaign. (See Rule 201(c)).

⁸ An Exhibit D, for which no printed form is provided, sets forth an account of money collected or received as a result of a fundraising campaign and transmitted for a foreign principal.

⁹ Things of value include but are not limited to gifts, interest free loans, expense free travel, favored stock purchases, exclusive rights, favored treatment over competitors, "kickbacks," and the like.

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15. (a) DISBURSEMENTS-MONIES

During this 6 month reporting period, have you

- (1) disbursed or expended monies in connection with activity on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement? Yes ☐ No ☒
- (2) transmitted monies to any such foreign principal? Yes ☐ No ☒

If no, explain in full detail why there were no disbursements made on behalf of any foreign principal.

If yes, set forth below in the required detail and separately for each foreign principal an account of such monies, including monies transmitted, if any, to each foreign principal.

Date	To Whom	Purpose	Amount
------	---------	---------	--------

0

Total

10044467784

(b) **DISBURSEMENTS-THINGS OF VALUE**

During this 6 month reporting period, have you disposed of anything of value¹⁰ other than money in furtherance of or in connection with activities on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Date	Recipient	Foreign Principal	Thing of Value	Purpose
------	-----------	-------------------	----------------	---------

(c) **DISBURSEMENTS-POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS**

During this 6 month reporting period, have you from your own funds and on your own behalf either directly or through any other person, made any contributions of money or other things of value¹¹ in connection with an election to any political office, or in connection with any primary election, convention, or caucus held to select candidates for political office?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If yes, furnish the following information:

Date	Amount or Thing of Value	Political Organization or Candidate	Location of Event
------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------

Please see attachment.

^{10, 11} Things of value include but are not limited to gifts, interest free loans, expense free travel, favored stock purchases, exclusive rights, favored treatment over competitors, "kickbacks," and the like.

16044467785

V - INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

16. (a) During this 6 month reporting period, did you prepare, disseminate or cause to be disseminated any informational materials?¹²Yes ☐ No ☒

If Yes, go to Item 17.

(b) If you answered No to Item 16(a), do you disseminate any material in connection with your registration?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If Yes, please forward the materials disseminated during the six month period to the Registration Unit for review.

17. Identify each such foreign principal.

18. During this 6 month reporting period, has any foreign principal established a budget or allocated a specified sum of money to finance your activities in preparing or disseminating informational materials? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, identify each such foreign principal, specify amount, and indicate for what period of time.

19. During this 6 month reporting period, did your activities in preparing, disseminating or causing the dissemination of informational materials include the use of any of the following:

- ☐ Radio or TV broadcasts ☐ Magazine or newspaper ☐ Motion picture films ☐ Letters or telegrams
☐ Advertising campaigns ☐ Press releases ☐ Pamphlets or other publications ☐ Lectures or speeches
☐ Other (specify) _____

Electronic Communications

- ☐ Email
☐ Website URL(s): _____
☐ Social media websites URL(s): _____
☐ Other (specify) _____

20. During this 6 month reporting period, did you disseminate or cause to be disseminated informational materials among any of the following groups:

- ☐ Public officials ☐ Newspapers ☐ Libraries
☐ Legislators ☐ Editors ☐ Educational institutions
☐ Government agencies ☐ Civic groups or associations ☐ Nationality groups
☐ Other (specify) _____

21. What language was used in the informational materials:

- ☐ English ☐ Other (specify) _____

22. Did you file with the Registration Unit, U.S. Department of Justice a copy of each item of such informational materials disseminated or caused to be disseminated during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☐ No ☒

23. Did you label each item of such informational materials with the statement required by Section 4(b) of the Act?

Yes ☐ No ☒

¹² The term informational materials includes any oral, visual, graphic, written, or pictorial information or matter of any kind, including that published by means of advertising, books, periodicals, newspapers, lectures, broadcasts, motion pictures, or any means or instrumentality of interstate or foreign commerce or otherwise. Informational materials disseminated by an agent of a foreign principal as part of an activity in itself exempt from registration, or an activity which by itself would not require registration, need not be filed pursuant to Section 4(b) of the Act.

VI - EXECUTION

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746, the undersigned swear(s) or affirm(s) under penalty of perjury that he/she has (they have) read the information set forth in this registration statement and the attached exhibits and that he/she is (they are) familiar with the contents thereof and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her (their) knowledge and belief, except that the undersigned make(s) no representation as to truth or accuracy of the information contained in the attached Short Form Registration Statement(s), if any, insofar as such information is not within his/her (their) personal knowledge.

(Date of signature)

(Print or type name under each signature or provide electronic signature¹³)

April 28, 2017

/s/ John Vincent Weber

eSigned

¹³ This statement shall be signed by the individual agent, if the registrant is an individual, or by a majority of those partners, officers, directors or persons performing similar functions, if the registrant is an organization, except that the organization can, by power of attorney, authorize one or more individuals to execute this statement on its behalf.

19044467787

Termination (May 2014)

Question 11

Mercury provided U.S. government affairs and public relations work to the ECFMU to advance its goals of greater political and economic alignment between Ukraine and the West. Mercury communicated and arranged meeting with members of Congress and staff, non-governmental organizations such as think tanks, and the media.

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Question 15c

MCSHERRY; MICHAEL T. ALEXANDRIA VA 22312 COOK, PAUL VIA PAUL COOK FOR CONGRESS 5/6/2014 500

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Back from Ukraine

May 21st, 2014

Posted by Steve

As I begin writing this week's blog, I'm on a plane somewhere over Ukraine, on my way back to the United States. Congress was not in session for the past week, and I've been accompanied on this trip by Democratic Congressman Steve Lynch of Massachusetts. Our mission was to assess the political situation in Ukraine, meet with our embassy personnel on the ground there who are protecting the interests of the United States, and meet with Ukrainian officials, most importantly Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk, who leads this country that is facing off at an existential time in its history, against Russia's power-hungry Vladimir Putin.



Photo with Prime Minister Yatsenyuk

Some background. Ukraine is a nation of 44 million people, that's strategically located between Russia and the West. It's slightly smaller than the state of Texas, and is a former satellite of the Soviet Union, having gained its independence in 1991, when the communist Soviet Union was breaking apart. Kiev is its capital.

Ukraine has had a rocky existence since gaining its independence. Russia has looked greedily at Ukraine since their separation as Ukraine is considered the breadbasket of Eurasia, being the third largest producer of grain globally. One event which illustrates the lengths to which Russia will go to maintain its influence over Ukraine, was the dioxin poisoning of presidential reform candidate, Viktor Yushchenko, by Russian agents. He survived, but was shockingly disfigured for life as a result of Russia's attempt on his life (see the two accompanying photos.)



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More recently, in 2010, another Viktor, this time Viktor Yanukovich was elected president, and was pulling Ukraine more into the sphere of Russia and away from the West. He was particularly corrupt, and targeted his pro-Western electoral opposition for selective prosecution. He had his opponent in the presidential election imprisoned on trumped-up charges. Then late last year he unexpectedly reneged on an agreement with the European Union, and turned to Russia instead.

Pro-Western protesters, mostly young people, took to the streets, urging the government to reform and allow a free and open society not under the Russian yoke. Yanukovich's thugs responded by viciously attacking and beating the peaceful protesters. Then in a particularly notorious incident, more than 100 peaceful protesters were gunned down in Maidan (Independence) Square. The reaction of the Ukrainian people was to increase the number of protesters from a few thousand to a half million. Support for the regime collapsed, and the corrupt Yanukovich fled to Russia. An interim pro-Western government was put into place, and elections for president will be held this weekend.

Russia's Vladimir Putin, of course, has attempted to take advantage of the instability in Ukraine to reestablish Russian influence over Ukraine. He first grabbed the Crimean region of Ukraine by sending in heavily armed, non-uniformed Russian-speaking troops, first seizing the airports, media outlets, police stations, and other government buildings. He then held a bogus referendum to claim that the people of Crimea wanted to leave Ukraine and become part of Russia. Then he just annexed Crimea.

When Putin saw just how weak the West's response was to the seizure of Crimea (the Europeans because of their "green" energy policy are so dependent on Russian gas and oil that they fear challenging Putin) and the Obama Administration as usual "leading from behind", Putin saw an opportunity to grab even more territory. He's doing this in eastern and southern Ukraine by placing 40 thousand troops on Ukraine's border, and sending in armed thugs to occupy key government buildings and foment instability. These thugs are often led by Russian intelligence agents and out-of-uniform Russian military and police personnel. These Russian infiltrators then try to make it appear that there is a desire by the people to join Russia.

Putin will continue his aggression just as long as he thinks he can get away with it. He believes our European allies are weak, and so dependent on Russian energy resources that they will do very little to resist his aggressive actions. And Putin's assessment of Obama is that he is indecisive and lacks resolve. In my opinion, he's correct on both counts. And if he can devour Crimea, and other chunks of Ukraine, then Poland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Moldova, will be next on his menu.

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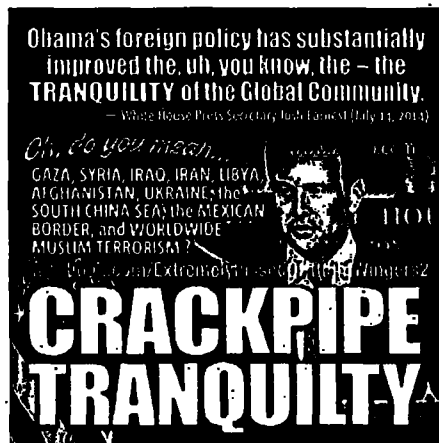
The Two Stupidest Comments of the Year

July 23rd, 2014

Posted by Steve

I'm not going to say they rank up there with "we've got to pass the bill to find out what's in it" (Nancy Pelosi) or "read my lips, no new taxes" (George H. W. Bush) or "peace for our time" (British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain) but the two quotes I'm going to discuss this week are easily the stupidest statements made so far this year.

I'd first like to nominate President Obama's relatively new press spokesman, Josh Earnest (at least he's got a good name.) Earnest claimed that the Obama Administration has brought "tranquility" to the "global community." TRANQUILITY?



Let's take a look at "tranquility" on the world scene under the Obama Administration.

ISIS is on the march in Iraq, which has gone from relative stability when Obama took over the reins from George W. Bush, to resembling a carcass being torn apart by Al-Qaeda-aligned ISIS and our number one enemy, Iran.



Syria continues to be a cauldron of death and misery, where Bashar al Assad remains in control of at least some of this so-called country, and Al-Qaeda-linked groups control most of the rest where they're busy raping, pillaging, murdering, and persecuting what's left of the Christian community, and imposing sharia law. Obama's much scoffed at "red line" there is only remembered when America's enemies in the region are



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reminiscing about the once great, once feared, United States of America. The reality is that as a result of the Obama Administration's feckless policies, America's friends no longer trust us, and our enemies no longer fear us.

Hamas has been firing rocket after rocket from Gaza into Israel for months now. Israel has finally had enough, and after targeting Hamas rocket launch sites with planes and artillery, has now launched a ground offensive into Gaza. Secretary of State John Kerry's mission to bring peace to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict was a total failure. It's war, although probably of a relatively short duration.



China is flexing its muscle in the South China Sea, bullying its neighbors, and sea skirmishes between naval vessels and fishing boats have been occurring more and more regularly. Although it hasn't attracted much attention in the world press, it's China vs Vietnam and Japan and South Korea and Taiwan and the Philippines. So much for President Obama's famous pivot from the Middle East to Asia. China is growing its military strength exponentially; the U.S. under Obama is getting weaker.



A few more instances of tranquility around the globe. Libya, post-Gaddafi, and post the murder of a U.S. Ambassador, is heading south fast. 300 innocent Nigerian schoolgirls are still in the loving hands of the murderous terror group, Boko Haram. Iran still marches towards possessing nuclear weapons, despite the sham negotiations currently taking place. And Vladimir Putin is playing the Obama Administration and our western allies as patsies, as he slowly but steadily reconstitutes the former Russian empire. He's already grabbed parts of Georgia, the Crimea and eastern regions of Ukraine, and his pro-Russian allies have just shot down a Malaysian airliner over Ukraine, killing 298 innocent travelers. Of course Putin's comrades are busily spinning tales that Ukrainians actually shot the plane down when they were allegedly firing at Putin's plane, or that the plane was already full of dead bodies before the plane was shot down, in an elaborate plan to blame Russia for the disaster.

So much for our tranquil world. Now for the other stupidest comment of the year. The award goes to, none other than, Democratic Senate Majority Leader, Harry Reid, who last week when referring to the U.S. border with Mexico, declared that "the border is secure." WHAT!?



What planet does this guy live on? Has he watched anything on T.V. or read a newspaper recently? We've got tens of thousands of unaccompanied children flooding into America across our border with Mexico, and "the

border is secure?" Unbelievable. It's hard to take Harry Reid seriously anymore.



Unfortunately, many Americans aren't even aware that Senator Reid made this inane declaration, because much of the press didn't even report it. If a Republican had made such a provably inaccurate comment, it would have been covered extensively. Remember Todd Akin?

Anyway, those are my nominations for stupidest comments (by politicians) of the year. Let me know what you think.

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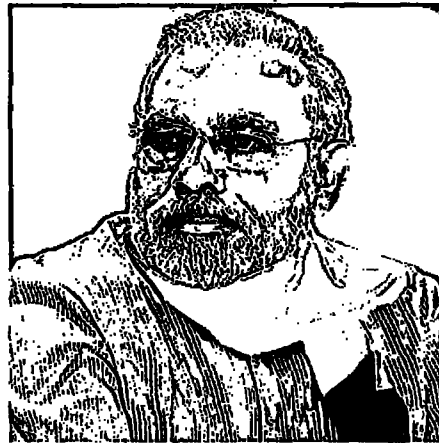
Hope in India; Fear in the Baltics

August 27th, 2014

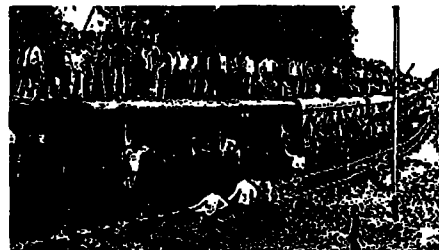
Posted by Steve

In my capacity as a senior member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, I just returned from India, Poland and Lithuania. I was accompanied by Democratic Congressman Lloyd Doggett of Texas and Republican Congressman Luke Messer of Indiana. (I've known Congressman Doggett for nearly 20 years as we were both first elected in 1994.)

India is the world's largest democracy, has four times the population of the United States, and is expected to pass China as the world's most populous nation in the not too distant future. This is a particularly significant time in U.S. - India relations, as the Indian people just elected a new leader, Prime Minister Narendra Modi.



Modi ran on a platform of economic growth and good governance (India has long been plagued by corruption and stifling bureaucracy), and there seems to be a prevailing confidence that he may be just the right leader there at the right time. He was previously a quite successful chief minister (similar to a governor) of the Indian state of Gujarat. It is hoped that he'll bring the same skills he displayed in Gujarat to all of India.



Since India is becoming a more and more important trading partner to the United States, his success could be positive for the United States, particularly in the area of economic growth and job creation. India is also seen as an important counterweight to China, the United States' probable principal rival on the world's stage over the next century. The U.S. - India relationship is considered to be a "strategic partnership," but only time will tell whether our relationship with India will be as positive as it should be. It needs to be handled right.



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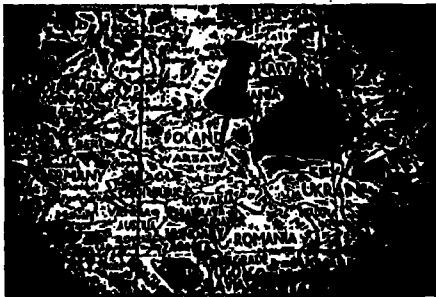
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Next, Eastern Europe. I had traveled to Ukraine, with Democratic Congressman Steve Lynch of Massachusetts, back in May, shortly after Russia grabbed Crimea. Putin has since shifted his attention to other eastern portions of Ukraine. Ukraine's neighbors, particularly Poland and the Baltic countries (Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania), all of whom had been behind the communist iron curtain until the fall of the former Soviet Union in 1989, feel threatened by Putin's aggression and refusal to recognize international boundaries. Our European NATO allies, and the Obama Administration's response to this aggression, was in my view, and in the view of many foreign policy experts, embarrassingly weak.



While in Ukraine, we met with the Ukrainian Prime Minister. He made it abundantly clear that whereas they appreciated what help the Obama Administration had given them (not much), their survival and that of their neighboring democracies need our, and NATO's, help.

On our way back from India, Congressmen Messer and Doggett and I spent several days in Poland and Lithuania. We first met with our embassy teams in both Warsaw and Vilnius to get the most up-to-date assessment of the situation on the ground in each country, and then met with representatives of the Polish and Lithuanian governments, including the Deputy Foreign Minister of Poland, and the Foreign Minister of Lithuania, the Prime Minister of Lithuania, and Members of the Lithuanian Parliament.



There is considerable concern in Poland and Lithuania that Putin will continue his dangerous aggression unless he's convinced that the West will stand up to him. Both Poland and Lithuania would like to have a permanent American military presence in their countries. This is something Congress and the Obama Administration need to have serious discussions about. We should insist that all our NATO allies devote more of their budgets to strengthening their own defenses, so they're less dependent on the United States for their security.

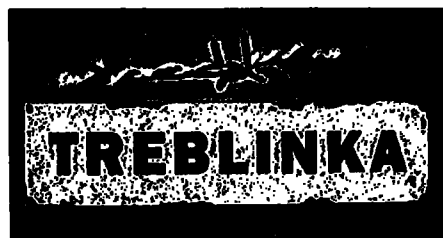
Also, most European countries are far too dependent on Russian sources of energy, making them subject to economic blackmail. Lithuania, for example, gets 100% of its natural gas from Russia, and 60% of its electricity.

Leaders in both countries said they'd far prefer to buy LNG (liquefied natural gas) from the United States. We have this in abundance and the Obama Administration and Congress should work together to modernize our existing rules and regulations which make exporting this product virtually impossible at the present time. Thousands and thousands of good paying American jobs can be created if we're smart about this.



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On a more somber note, while in Poland, we drove from the capitol, Warsaw, to the Nazi death camp of Treblinka, about 60 miles outside the city. From July 1942 to August 1943, 900,000 lives, mostly Jewish, were exterminated at Treblinka by Hitler and his murderers. And in Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania, we spent about an hour with a 92-year-old survivor, in what was the Jewish ghetto until virtually every Jewish man, woman, and child were exterminated. Her mother, father, sister, and every one of her relatives was killed. She was one of the only occupants of the ghetto who escaped, and joined the partisan underground fighting the Germans until the end of the war. It was incredibly moving to listen to this 92-year-old woman, who witnessed firsthand the most horrific event in mankind's history.



And finally, in Vilnius we spent about an hour with Democratic Senator Bill Nelson of Florida, who was on a different CODEL (Congressional Delegation.) We principally discussed our impressions from our separate meetings with various government officials, and what the U.S. response should be to Russian aggression. It's good to see representatives of both political parties able to rationally discuss matters important to our nation.

One interesting fact about Senator Nelson. He was only the second United States Senator to fly on the Space Shuttle (the first was Senator Jake Garn of Utah.) Senator Nelson returned to Earth on the Space Shuttle Columbia, just ten days before the Challenger exploded shortly after takeoff. The Columbia, on which the Senator traveled, was also lost several years later, when it broke apart across the United States, killing all the crew.

I asked him if there was anything that stuck out in his mind about his flight. He said he'll always remember looking down at the earth, and it was mostly blue, and very beautiful. He went on to say that he could see earth's continents and oceans and thought about there being no borders visible, and that it seemed a shame so many people down there divide themselves into different groups, and are so often fighting with each other. Interesting thought.

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Sorry, You're On Your Own

September 24th, 2014

Posted by Steve

Ukraine's recently elected President, Petro Poroshenko, addressed a joint session of Congress last Thursday. He gave an impassioned speech, asking for U.S. help against Russia's Vladimir Putin, who has already annexed Ukraine's Crimean region, and is attempting to gobble up additional portions of eastern Ukraine.



Steve Chabot

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President Poroshenko also met with President Obama in the Oval Office, where he desperately sought military equipment, specifically weapons, so Ukraine can defend herself from the Russian juggernaut. What he got from Obama, was the back of his hand. Obama refuses to provide weapons, because he, and some of our European NATO allies, fear that this would provoke Russia.



Baloney! The Russians have been aggressively attacking Ukraine for months now. Helping Ukraine defend herself with appropriate weaponry isn't going to provoke an already hungry and aggressive Russian bear, but it just might be enough to hold it at bay. Bullies like Putin understand and respect power; they take advantage of and prey upon weakness.

The Obama Administration has agreed to assist Ukraine with so-called non-lethal items, like uniforms, tents, MRE's (meals ready to eat), and blankets, but no weapons. Ukraine's President, Poroshenko, thanked the Obama Administration for the offered items, but added "one cannot win a war with blankets." And of course, he's right.

President Obama meanwhile last week attended yet another of the many political fundraisers he's devoted so much of his time to; this time in Maryland. While speaking at the event, Obama commented "what happens in Ukraine doesn't pose a direct threat to us."

This is both naive, and short-sighted. Vladimir Putin is in the process of reconstituting the old Soviet empire. He will continue to push as long as he believes he can get away with it. He's smart, and cunning, and relentless.

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The Obama-created power vacuum around the world is dangerous, not only to freedom-loving peoples across the globe, but ultimately to the United States itself. When the U.S. leads, the world is a safer place. When we "lead from behind", or fail to lead at all, not only is the world a more dangerous place, but Americans are less safe. I only wish this Administration understood that.

Post Script: In less than a week (Tuesday, September 30th), the third quarter of this campaign cycle ends. All Congressional candidates (including me) must report how much we've raised for our Congressional campaigns. If you haven't given yet, or you're able to give a little more, I'd greatly appreciate your help. You can make a secure online contribution by [clicking here](#), or you can send a check to Chabot for Congress, 632 Vine Street, Suite 805, Cincinnati, OH 45202. Thanks so much. See you next week.

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Obama's Last State of the Union Address: What He SHOULD Have Said

January 13th, 2016

Posted by Steve

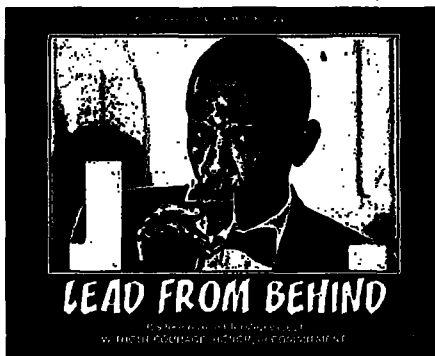
"Well this is it, America. The last time I'll have the opportunity to come before a joint session of Congress, and address the nation, in prime time. And I've decided to do something different. I'm going to turn off my teleprompter, and not read that speech that my crack staff and pollsters and wordsmiths have been working on the last few months. They had put together a legacy list of my accomplishments over the last seven years, and a laundry list of things I'd propose doing over the upcoming year, knowing full well that this stuff had no chance of getting through Congress.

Instead of that, I'm going to do something completely different. Something I honestly haven't done in a long time - I'm going to level with you. I'm going to tell you the complete truth, with the hope that maybe I can salvage what's left of my presidency, that offered so much hope and change when it began.



Okay, here goes. It is truly a dangerous world out there. I really didn't believe that when I took over. I thought most of the world's problems were that we, the United States, just threw our weight around too much. That if we'd just talk more to the so-called 'bad guys' around the world, not isolate them, I could reason with them. The leaders in Iran, Cuba, Russia, and North Korea for example acted the way they did because of the way we treated them. I don't want to simplify this too much, but basically if we were nicer to them, they would be nicer to us.

Boy did I miss the boat on that one. The truth is, we treated them the way we did, because of the long term actions of their leaders. They were pariah because they treated their neighbors, and their own people, so poorly. And I've come to realize that if the United States doesn't lead, no one else will. My so-called 'leading from behind' strategy, just didn't work. I never liked that label, but it was accurate. I wish I'd followed the example of Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Ronald Reagan on this, but I didn't. And I'm sorry.



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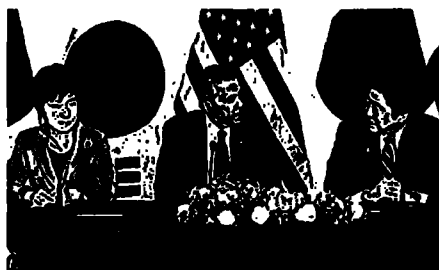
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Let me give you one specific example of how I'm going to change. We've got this nut-case leader of North Korea, Kim Jung Un, and his father and grandfather before him, who've been provoking us, and the rest of the world, for far too long. His latest stunt is to set off another nuclear device that he claims was a hydrogen bomb. And he has missiles which could probably reach the United States. Now short of sending American troops, and getting a lot of them killed, the only real way of exerting pressure on Kim is through China. China provides most of North Korea's food and fuel. But China refuses to really do anything to get North Korea to back off. All we get is lip service from China.



So I'm announcing this evening that I am sending my Secretary of State to both Japan and South Korea, to enter into immediate negotiations. The purpose of these talks will be to discuss the feasibility, and potential timeframe, of each of these countries developing defensive nuclear weapons programs themselves. Now I know China will strenuously object to this proposal, as will obviously North Korea. But it is the only thing which has any chance of motivating China to pressure North Korea to abandon its nuclear program. And North Korea must abandon that program, for the security of the United States, and the rest of the world. I am firm in my commitment to this new initiative.



Okay, a few other foreign affairs issues. With respect to Iran, I was way too optimistic about them. I really wanted to stop their nuclear weapons program. So I pushed for a deal with them. And even though Congress and the American people were against it, I signed it anyway. Now they're already testing missile systems which prove to me that they have no intention of complying with the agreement. So I'm going to declare that they are in violation of the agreement, and ask Congress to work with me to impose even stronger sanctions. I should have worked with Congress in the first place, rather than circumvented them. After all, they are the elected representatives of the American people.



Now with respect to Russia, I should have learned from my predecessor's mistake. George Bush famously looked into Vladimir Putin's eyes and said he could see into his soul. He thought he was somebody he could work with. Then Putin invaded the independent country of Georgia, seizing the Georgian regions of South Ossetia and Abkhazia.

Rather than being wary of Putin, I sent my first Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton, to push her famous 'reset' button with Russia's foreign minister Sergey Lavrov. Then I canceled our defensive missile programs in Poland and the Czech Republic, so as not to offend Russia. Unfortunately, not only did we make ourselves and our allies more vulnerable to Iranian incoming missiles, and make our allies like Poland and the Czech Republic question the wisdom of relying on our commitment, but it sent a clear message to Putin early in my presidency.

that we could be pushed around. I'm afraid that resulted in Putin's brazenly invading Ukraine, annexing Crimea, and propping up Assad in Syria. Unfortunately, with only a year left in my presidency, I don't know what to do to truly reset our current relationship with Russia. I guess I'll have to leave that to Trump. Oops, sorry. Don't read anything into that. I guess I should have said Hillary. After all, even though I'm trying to be honest here, I'm still a Democrat.



And with respect to ISIS, I have to take responsibility for its very existence. Many brave Americans, and Iraqis who fought beside us, had given their lives to prevail in Iraq. A fairly stable situation had been attained after the success of the so-called surge. Virtually all my military advisors had strongly recommended that after the war in Iraq had been won, a small contingency force of 10,000 to 20,000 troops be kept in Iraq to secure the peace. Of course we'd done this in Europe following WWII and in Korea following that conflict. But I'd made a campaign promise that I'd pull our troops out of Iraq, and that was more important to me at the time than the security of our nation. I made a terrible mistake. It resulted in a power vacuum that was filled by the likes of ISIS.

So this evening, I'm announcing that rather than continue with the token military action I've ordered thus far, with limited air strikes, we're going to destroy ISIS. After all, their poisonous ideology is spreading over the Internet to terrorists around the world – from Paris, to San Bernardino, to Philadelphia just this past weekend. We've got to stop this cancer. And it begins now.



Now as to changes in my domestic policies..."

(Unfortunately, due to the fact that President Obama's speech went on for an hour, and I strive to take no more than a few minutes of my faithful blog readers' precious time each week, I had to cut the President off there. See you next week.)

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Putin is Making Obama Look Like A Schmuck

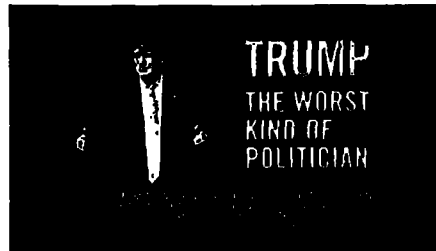
April 20th, 2016

Posted by Steve

Everybody seemed to think that Donald Trump was going to win big in New York yesterday – and he did. And most people thought that Hillary Clinton was going to beat Bernie Sanders in New York, the state she represented for 8 years in the United States Senate, and she did, although not quite as huge.



But to be honest with you, I'm a little tired of talking about, and writing about, the presidential race. A number of the candidates are driving me a little nuts with some of the things they're saying, and doing, and claiming, and accusing their opponents of.



So I decided to take a break from the campaign this week. To write about something entirely different for a change, and something that's important. And that's that Russia's Vladimir Putin is running circles around our President, Barack Obama. Eating his lunch. And not only is it embarrassing for Barack Obama, but it's dangerous for our country.



Steve Chabot

U.S. Representative

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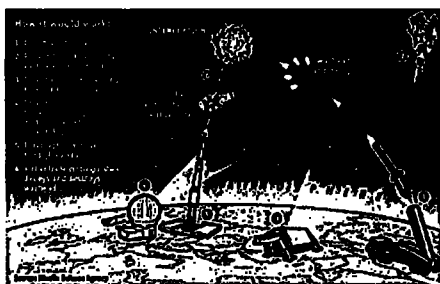
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The Obama Administration's bungling of the U.S.-Russian relationship began with then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton famously presenting a red button to Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, which she thought said "reset," but actually said, "overcharge." This was only a month-and-a-half into the Administration, and the Obama folks were not only signaling that we were the supplicants, but that we were incompetent. The Obama Administration's reset also signaled that Russia was going to get away unscathed with its 2008 aggression against its neighbor, Georgia, and its annexing of Georgia's sovereign territories of Abkhazia and South Ossetia.



Some months later, still in the first year of the Obama presidency, it was announced that we were scrapping our agreement with two key, formerly behind the Iron Curtain allies, Poland and the Czech Republic, to build a missile defense shield. The shield was to defend us and our European Allies from Iranian missile capabilities, and when one considers just how bad a deal this Administration negotiated with the Iranians, we sure could use that missile shield. Despite the fact that the shield was intended to defend us from bad Iranian intentions, Putin whined that it was a military threat to Russia. The Obama Administration caved, our new Eastern European allies were thrown under the bus, rightfully feeling betrayed, and vulnerable, and Russia and Iran got what they wanted, and learned that this new American president could be played.



And who can forget the famous exchange between Barack Obama and outgoing Russian President Dmitry Medvedev, when our Commander-in-Chief, not realizing that a camera was picking up his every word, assured Medvedev that Obama would have "more flexibility" to cave in even more in the future, once he got the pesky upcoming election out of the way. Medvedev responded, "I will transmit this information to Vladimir."



I remember thinking at the time, this is one of the most outrageous things I've ever heard a President say. He was essentially telling Russia, let me get reelected, and then I'll sell out my country. Mitt Romney attempted to use Obama's gaffe (a gaffe of course being when a politician in Washington tells the truth), but got little mileage out of it—Romney was too busy defending himself from his own "47%" gaffe. I'm still amazed that Obama got away with saying something so outrageous.

Around the same time, Obama was busy playing Hamlet with respect to Syria. Should he authorize the use of military force in Syria, or not? After hemming and hawing for months, he finally announced that the use of chemical weapons by Syria was the red line. Use chemical weapons, and we're coming to get you. "Chemical weapons...being utilized...that would change my calculation." Secretary of State Hillary Clinton joined in, saying, "and everyone has made it clear to the Syrian regime, that (the use of chemical weapons) is a red line for the world."

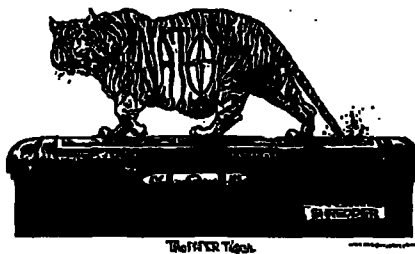


Of course Syria did use chemical weapons, sarin gas specifically, killing hundreds and hundreds of people. And despite what the Obama Administration had said they'd do, they did nothing. Putin saw an opportunity to boost Russian prestige, so he stepped in with a Russian plan for Syria to turn its chemical weapons over to international control. In essence, Putin bailed out a dithering Barack Obama. Putin appeared decisive, and formidable; Obama appeared indecisive, and weak, and lost.



And then there's Ukraine. By this time, Putin had had plenty of opportunities to take the measure of Barack Obama. Putin knew he could do virtually anything, and there'd be a nonchalant response by the Obama Administration, but no real action. He knew that our NATO allies were so dependent on Russian energy supplies, that they wouldn't risk any real action against Russia either. Besides, what European military forces are there nowadays? Very few of the NATO countries spend anywhere near the 2% of GDP that they're committed to spending for their militaries. NATO is arguably a hollowed-out paper tiger. Putin knows this. Maybe not obsolete, as Donald Trump was roundly criticized for saying. But certainly not the finely-tuned machine that was envisioned to protect the free countries of Europe from becoming like their Eastern European brethren behind what Winston Churchill had aptly named an Iron Curtain.

REUTERS



So masked by the goodwill of the Sochi Olympic games, Putin decided to make his move against his former vassal state, Ukraine. Putin began by invading Crimea, then holding a bogus referendum vote, which he used as an excuse to outright annex Crimea. The West lamely protested, but again did nothing. Russia has continued its incursion into Eastern Ukraine for several years now. The Ukrainians have fought bravely, but they are outgunned. The Obama Administration has sent blankets and MRE's (meals ready to eat) but still refuses to provide what Ukraine really needs, sophisticated weapons so they have a fighting chance to defend themselves against Russian aggression.



In the last several years, I've traveled to Ukraine, and to Poland, and the Baltic nations, Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia. I've met with my counterparts in their parliaments, I've met with presidents and prime ministers, and generals, and soldiers, and ambassadors, and our country teams at our embassies, throughout the region. And my conclusion is that these nations, our allies, are scared to death of what Russia will do next, and for good reason. Russia could move in, militarily, or through the use of thug militias, or ethnically Russian sympathizers already within these countries, or by a combination of all these tactics, virtually at any time. And there's reason to believe that the West's response would be — not much. And whether or not that's true, Putin has every reason to believe that it is true. And it's my belief that he will do virtually whatever he believes he can get away with.



All you have to do is look at what Putin did last week. Russian fighter jets made simulated attacks on an American warship in international waters, coming dangerously close to the ship. Then just days later, Russian fighters did the same thing again, this time making a threatening run at a U.S. reconnaissance plane in international airspace, coming within just feet of hitting our plane. This provocative and dangerous behavior would never have occurred if Putin believed he was dealing with a truly capable and determined Administration.



The bottom line is, due to the Obama Administration's intentional withdrawal from America's traditional leadership role, there is a power vacuum around the globe. And that vacuum is being filled by bad actors. From China building islands in the South China Sea, to the cancerous growth of ISIS in the Middle East following the withdrawal of all U.S. troops from Iraq, to Putin running amok in Eastern Europe and elsewhere, the bad actors are on the march. And the Obama Administration watches passively as the parade goes by, sitting on the sidelines. Contemplating the really important issues, like climate change.

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Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Armenia

August 17th, 2016

Posted by Steve

Folks, I'm taking a break from the presidential election this week. Not talking about Trump. Not talking about Hillary. Not going to analyze the latest allegation against either candidate. Not going to critique the mainstream press's latest example of bias against Trump, or in favor of Hillary (oops, couldn't help myself...)



Steve Chabot

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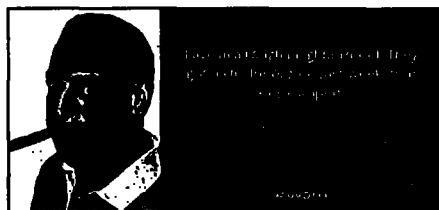
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What I am going to talk about this week, is a part of the world, which is often ignored by much of the rest of the world. And that's despite the fact that this region, could play a critical role in the ongoing conflict between civilization and radical Islam, East vs West, and Putin's attempt to reconstitute the former Soviet Union. That region is the Caucasus.



The Caucasus sits at the crossroads of Europe and Asia. It lies between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea. It consists of parts of Iran, Turkey, and Russia (including Chechnya and Dagestan); and all of the nations of Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Armenia. It's a very tough neighborhood.



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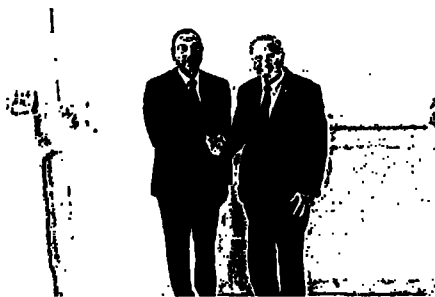
In my capacity as a senior member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, and Chairman of the House Small Business Committee, I just returned yesterday from visiting Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Armenia. The purpose of the mission was to assess the current status of U.S. relations with each of these nations, including economic, political, military, and national security issues. I learned a lot, and thought I'd share it with you.



My first stop, Azerbaijan. First a few facts about Azerbaijan. Like Georgia, and Armenia, Azerbaijan was behind the Iron Curtain (a part of the former Soviet Union), until 1991. It's a secular Shia Muslim nation of about 10 million people. Azerbaijan is about the size of Maine. One of our principal interests in Azerbaijan for decades has been that they are a major oil and natural gas producer. Since much of the oil under the land has already been exploited, most of the current and future drilling will be off their shore in the Caspian Sea. And the United States is working with Azerbaijan to build pipelines to allow oil and gas to be piped directly to Europe. Otherwise, our European allies will continue to be so dependent upon Russian sources of energy, that they are easily intimidated by Putin's threat to cut off their source of energy if they stand up with the United States against Putin's bullying.



Having been under the Soviet Union's domination for nearly 80 years, Azerbaijan still has some Soviet bad habits, such as corruption, a not-so-independent judicial system, insufficient rule of law, lack of transparency, and bureaucracy, (even worse than ours.) After first discussing these issues in detail with our Ambassador, and our Embassy personnel, I raised them in a meeting I had with Azerbaijan's President, Ilham Aliyev.



I also met with Azerbaijan's Minister of Defense, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of the Economy, and the American Chamber of Commerce, among others. At all these meetings, I thanked Azerbaijan for standing side by side with the United States and our NATO allies, in sending Azhiri troops to Kosovo, Iraq and Afghanistan.



One final point about Azerbaijan. They have been in an ongoing dispute with their neighbor Armenia, over a portion of Azerbaijan which was lost in a conflict with Armenia, called Nagorno-Karabakh, about 25 years ago. Fighting breaks out here every few years, most recently in April of this year, when approximately 200 Azerbaijanis and Armenians were killed. Putin has now stepped in and is trying to broker a deal. Of course the way Putin operates is to look for weakness or instability, and exploit it for his own purposes. We should keep a close eye on this.



Next, Georgia (the country of course, not the state.) First, a little background on Georgia. Like Azerbaijan, Georgia gained its freedom from the former Soviet Union in 1991. It's a nation approximately the size of West Virginia, and has 3.7 million people. Its capital is Tbilisi. They claim to be the most pro-American nation on earth (although I have traveled to a few other nations who make that same claim, such as Albania.) Putin has been trying to bring Georgia back into Russia's sphere of influence for some time now. Similar to Putin's aggression in Ukraine in taking over Crimea, he invaded Georgia back in 2008, taking over two regions of Georgia - Abkhazia and South Ossetia, which together constituted 20% of Georgia's territory.



I had a slew of meetings while in Georgia, but without doubt, the most important was with their head of state, Prime Minister Giorgi Kvirikashvili. Georgia is strongly seeking our and NATO's support to stand up to the Russians, and I think they should have it. They are one of our allies that is actually living up to their commitment to us. For example, they have sent more of their soldiers per capita to fight with us in Afghanistan, than any of our other allies. And unlike most of our allies, who have failed to meet the NATO requirement that they devote at least 2% of their GDP to military spending (only 5 of the 28 NATO members meet that commitment), Georgia has met the 2% requirement. And that's even though Georgia hasn't yet been officially admitted into NATO. They ought to be.



Last, but not least, Armenia. And as I did with the other two countries, first some basic information on Armenia. It's about the size of Maryland, and has a population of approximately 3 million. Interestingly, Armenia is said to be the first nation to formally adopt Christianity, which occurred in the early part of the 4th century. Also interestingly, Mt. Ararat, where Noah according to the Bible landed his ark and all those animals, can be seen from Armenia's capital, Yerevan. Mt. Ararat is the symbol of Armenia and is on its coat of arms, but is now located in Turkey. That's because Turkey took Mt. Ararat along with other Armenian territory in the Turkish-Armenian War in 1921.



While in Armenia, I met with a whole range of Armenian officials, from the Minister of Defense (comparable to our Secretary of Defense), to the Minister of Economics, to a group of Parliamentarians, and so on. The subject that came up over and over was Nagorno-Karabakh. Of course their view on the topic is exactly the opposite of the way Azerbaijan sees it. And here's the concern Georgia should have. Azerbaijan has significant oil and natural gas reserves. Georgia does not. Azerbaijan is therefore spending a great deal of their oil and gas money on rapidly building up their military. Georgia is not going to be able to keep up with this. So what should the U.S. do? We should do everything we can to help keep both sides talking, rather than shooting at each other. Otherwise, another even fiercer war, one that could greatly destabilize the whole region, is a real possibility.

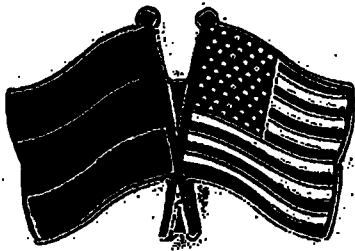
STOP A WAR

Another topic that's at the forefront of Armenian thoughts, actually occurred 100 years ago – the Armenian Genocide. 1.5 million Armenians were slaughtered at the hands of the Ottoman Empire (modern day Turkey.) There were of course atrocities committed on both sides. Armenia has been trying to get the mass killings recognized by the world as a "genocide", but Turkey has strongly resisted this over the years. Hitler is alleged to have said, while contemplating the extermination of the Jews, "Who still talks nowadays of the extermination of the Armenians?"

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Our relationship with Armenia can, at times, be quite frustrating. Particularly disappointing was their vote at the UN to, in essence, recognize Russia's annexation of Crimea. The fact is, Armenia has had a close relationship with Russia for many years. Despite this fact, because Armenia is located in a region strategically important to U.S. interests, we should stay engaged with Armenia.



Thanks for taking the time to read this week's blog, which may have taken a while to get through. I hope you've learned a thing or two, as I did spending the last week in this challenging part of the world.

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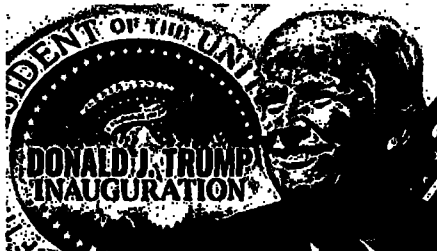
Steve's Blog

The Inaugural Address Donald Trump Should Give (But Probably Won't)

January 18th, 2017

Posted by Steve

My fellow Americans. Thank you for the confidence you've shown in electing me your 45th President. I fully realize that half the nation would have preferred someone else being sworn in today – actually a little more than half, especially in California. In light of this, it's my commitment to you, that I intend to truly be, President of ALL the people, whether you voted for me or not.



Our nation has been too divided, for too long. Often during campaigns nowadays, things are said, charges are made, which are untrue, unfair, and unnecessary. It happens on both sides. And it must stop. And it's up to me to set an example.

As you may know, I have a reputation for never apologizing, or admitting I was wrong – about anything. Well I'd like to turn over a new leaf, and acknowledge where I have been wrong. It's not easy for me, but here goes.



I said some pretty insensitive things over the course of the last campaign. Some of my supporters probably agreed with some of the things I said. But mostly I think my supporters were willing to overlook some pretty stupid comments, because they were so dissatisfied with the lack of leadership in Washington, and especially dissatisfied with the candidate the other party was offering. So my supporters stuck with me, even though they may not have agreed with, or liked, what I said.



Steve Chabol

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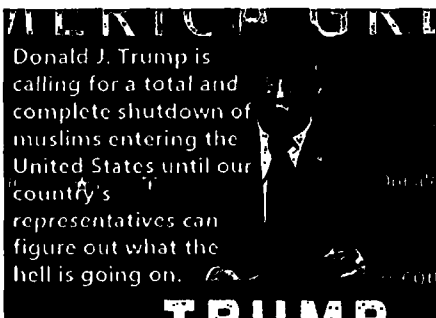
I could stand in the middle of 5th Avenue and shoot somebody, and I wouldn't lose voters."



Anyway, I'd like to apologize for some of the things that, as I look back now, I shouldn't have said. For example, I shouldn't have labeled Mexican immigrants with the broad brush of being criminals and rapists. There obviously are some who are. But it was unfair to the vast majority, who are merely seeking a better life for themselves and their families. That being said, we're still going to build a wall. A great wall. A beautiful wall. Although I have to admit, it might be a little tougher to find a credible way to get Mexico to pay for it. But I'm working on it.



And related to immigration, shortly after that dastardly attack on innocent Americans in San Bernardino by ISIS sympathizers, I called for a total ban on Muslims entering the United States. Well it seemed like a good idea at the time, and a lot of people agreed with me. It probably even helped me in the polls. But it was wrong to brand a whole group of people, or a whole religion, for the actions of a minority.



As many of you know, my initial position evolved over time to something I later called extreme vetting of people from unstable places having a high degree of terror, like Syria and Libya and Iraq. I am committing my administration to playing a far greater leadership role in stabilizing those types of places, so people won't feel it's necessary to flee from their home countries in the first place. This also goes for unstable areas in our own hemisphere, like Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador. Less than optimal conditions in Central and South America have resulted in tens of thousands of unaccompanied minors showing up at our southern border. The Obama Administration has welcomed this onslaught of illegal immigrants, some prefer the label of undocumented workers, but whatever they're called, I intend to do what's necessary to get our borders under control and protect our nation.



Breitbart Texas Release

A few more things I regret saying. In referring to POWs, I said I preferred people who weren't captured. That was just wrong, and I never should have said it. We must honor our POWs, and for that matter, all who have served. And even though John McCain gets under my skin sometimes, he most definitely IS a hero.



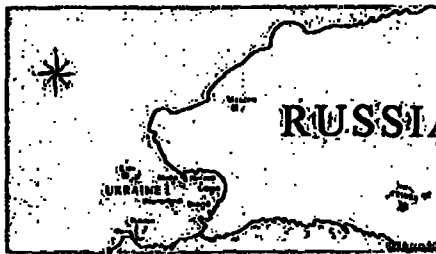
And speaking of someone else who gets under my skin – Ted Cruz – and no, I don't seriously think his father had anything to do with the Kennedy assassination. That was just crazy talk. One of my campaign people had seen something claiming this in a National Enquirer story. I should have considered the source, and ignored it. So to Ted Cruz, and to his father, I apologize.



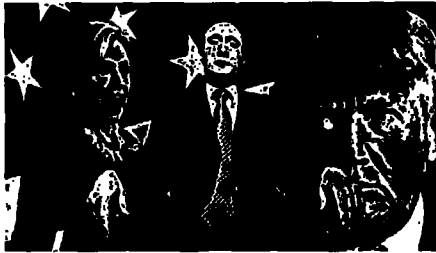
Now there has been a lot of concern expressed by some, that I'm too close to the Russians. They go so far as claiming that I owe my win to Russia's intervention. There's no validity to this. And whereas I do believe the U.S. and Russia could both benefit from better relations, I want to send a clear message to Vladimir Putin. Even though I believe NATO needs a considerable upgrading, the U.S. under my administration is committed to our NATO alliance, and will defend any NATO nation threatened by Russia, or by ISIS terrorists.



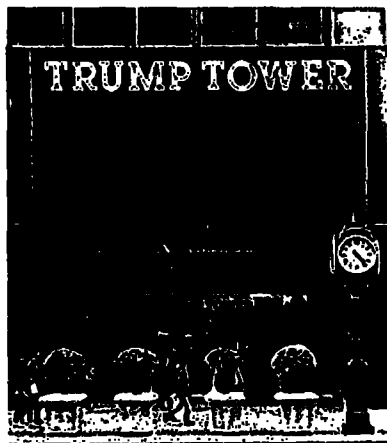
And, Vladimir, I'm giving you 60 days to pull all your troops, whether under Russian insignia, or whether they're your famous "little green men", from both Crimea and from other parts of eastern Ukraine. If you fail to do so, I will provide sophisticated weapons to the Ukrainian military, and impose the harshest of sanctions on Russia, among a host of other measures. Don't test me.



So, Vlad, if you were pulling for me, thanks. If you want to act like a civilized leader, in a civilized world, great. We'll get along fine. But if you continue to act like the world's thug, I'll be your worst enemy. And you should have been rooting for Hillary.



And finally, on the domestic front, I'm fully committed to the goals I talked about during the campaign: improving the economy, bringing jobs back to America, reforming the tax code, getting rid of Obamacare and replacing it with something better, and so on. But in retrospect, there's something I didn't talk about much. And that's getting our fiscal house in order – balancing the budget and starting to pay down our nearly \$20 trillion in debt. I wish I'd talked about it more during the campaign. I didn't. But after talking to a lot of folks whose opinions I respect, I'm now convinced we've got to tackle this problem before it's too late. So I'm committing to you, the American people, that the budget will be balanced by the time I leave office, or I will transfer 90% of my assets, including Trump Tower, to the U.S. Treasury to help pay down the national debt.



(President Trump's inaugural address went on for some time after this memorable promise, but in the interest of respecting your time, I'll stop there. See you next week.)

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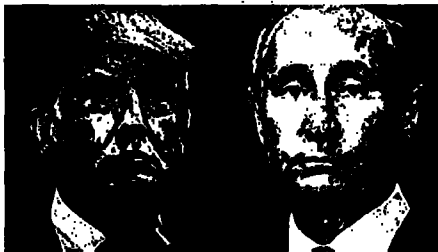
Steve's Blog

Let's Keep Our Eye on the Ball

March 8th, 2017

Posted by Steve

The press and the American Left have been chasing their tails for some time now, trying to prove that the Russians elected Donald Trump president. Yes, Trump does seem to have an odd fondness for Putin, despite the fact that this former KGB operative is a thug and a murderer. Some have even called it a man crush (whatever that is.)



The latest chapter in this saga occurred over the weekend when President Trump alleged that President Obama and his intelligence agencies had Trump Tower wire-tapped during the presidential campaign, presumably to prove some Trump/Russian connection. As usual, FOX News and The Right came to the Trump Administration's defense in this flap, the mainstream media and The Left say Trump's claims are irresponsible and outlandish and are a threat to democracy and all that is good.



I think we should all calm down, and let the facts take us where they may. But more importantly, I am concerned that all the political infighting is a distraction from something far more important. Despite having signed an agreement with the previous Obama Administration, Iran recently fired several ballistic missiles, one with a message on it written in Hebrew that read "Israel should be wiped off the earth." Iran then followed up several days later firing a number of Russian-made surface-to-air-missiles. And if this wasn't bad enough, over the weekend, lunatic-led North Korea fired off four ballistic missiles, despite the rest of the world's warnings not to.



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THIS is what we really should be focused on. We very well could be approaching a point where several rogue nations either have, or soon will have, the ability and the desire to deliver and detonate a nuclear device on American soil.

First, some history. During World War II, the United States and Nazi Germany were secretly racing to be the first to harness the power of the atom as a weapon. Fortunately the United States won that race, and used the fearsome device against our then-enemy, Imperial Japan, twice, and thereby saved the lives of perhaps a million Americans, who would otherwise have been killed trying to take the Japanese homeland by force. Also fortunately, neither atomic nor hydrogen weapons have so far been used against a foe since 1945 (70+ years.) It is the world's ultimate challenge to see that this remains the case.

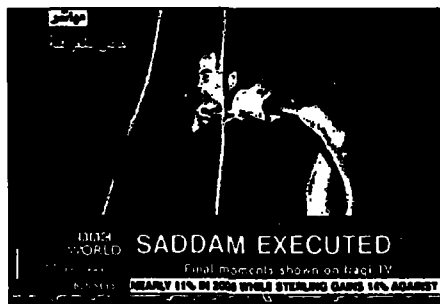


Nagasaki

Hiroshima

There have been a few close calls over the years. The Cuban Missile Crisis is one. The high-wire tension between India and Pakistan back in 1998, with both sides provocatively detonating test explosions is another.

Shortly after September 11th, President George W. Bush, in a speech before a joint session of Congress (I was there) famously declared that there was an "Axis of Evil" which had to be dealt with – Iraq, Iran, and North Korea. He obviously acted (some would argue over-acted) with respect to Iraq, and we saw the overthrow and subsequent execution of Saddam Hussein. But Iran and North Korea are still out there -arguably more dangerous than ever.



With respect to Iran, I would argue that the Obama Administration completely blew it. First of all, shortly after taking office, Obama scrapped a deal the Bush Administration had reached with our Polish and Czech allies to locate anti-ballistic missile systems in each country, to protect the United States and our European allies from Iranian inter-continental ballistic missiles. The main reason Obama did this, was to avoid offending Russia – the very thing Democrats accuse Trump of.



PUTIN VICTORY: OBAMA KILLS MISSILE DEFENSE FOR
POLAND, CZECH

DRUDGE REPORT

Then Obama entered into the very flawed Iran Deal, which virtually guarantees that Iran will have nuclear weapons in the not-distant future. It of course also allowed \$150 billion to flow to the world's chief supporter of terrorism, Iran.



And as for North Korea, the Obama Administration left the Trump Administration a situation as dangerous as Iran, if not more so. North Korea has continued to move forward with a nuclear weapons program which will soon be able to hit the continental United States. North Korean leaders dismissed warnings by Barack Obama, just as they did from George Bush and Bill Clinton before him.



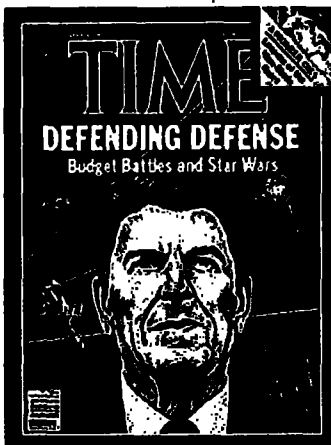
Here's my recommendation to the Trump Administration. The only country that has any real leverage with North Korea is China. The key is to convince China to use that leverage on North Korea. And the only thing I believe that will get China's attention, is if China's rivals in the region, Japan and South Korea, CONSIDER establishing nuclear weapons programs themselves. North Korea's provocative actions certainly justify this. I would advise the Trump Administration to enter into talks with Japan and South Korea about the possibility of beginning such programs. It's my opinion that such discussions would get China's attention, and that China might finally put pressure on North Korea to back off.



Interestingly, according to the New York Times, the outgoing president, Barack Obama, told the incoming president, Donald Trump, that North Korea would be "the most urgent problem" he would face. This is already proving to be the case.

And thank God that one of President Trump's predecessors, Ronald Reagan, didn't back down in the face of withering criticism from The Left and the mainstream press when Reagan proposed the development of an

anti-missile defense system. Reagan called this bullet-hitting-a-bullet effort the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI). His critics derisively referred to it as "Star Wars", and said it would never work.'



Well, we've come a long way over the past 30 years in the development of this nuclear defense shield. It may just save Seattle, or San Francisco, or Los Angeles from a North Korean attack some day. And it probably already helped lead to the fall of the former Soviet Union, because our principal foe back then was unable to keep up with the cost of developing their own counter version of "Star Wars", and imploded.



The bottom line is, let's not get distracted by the hysterics of the day (or the latest tweet.) Let's instead stay focused on those things which are truly important. And protecting our nation from a nuclear-armed lunatic like Kim Jong Un, has to be at or near the top of the list.

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What Trump Should Tell Putin When They Meet This Week

July 5th, 2017

Posted by Steve

In a couple days, Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin will both be in Hamburg, Germany, for the G-20 Summit. It's been confirmed that the two leaders will meet there, for the first time since Trump became President.



Steve Chabot

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What should they talk about? Well a lot of liberals (progressives, Democrats, the mainstream press, whatever you want to call them), believe that Trump and Putin, or at least their surrogates, have been working together for some time, first to steal the election last November, and then to cover the whole thing up. So whatever Trump and Putin actually talk about behind closed doors, it will be assumed by many that they were up to no good.



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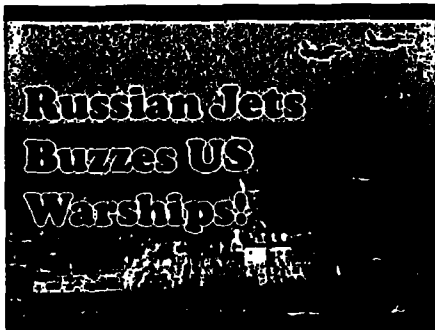
(In my opinion, at the top of Trump's list should be - Crimea. Yes, Crimea. Much of the rest of the world has all but forgotten about Russia's hostile invasion and subsequent annexation of Crimea. It's been more than three years now. The feeble reaction by The West in general, and by the Obama Administration in particular, was embarrassing. And dangerous, because it invites future aggression by Russia, or by other bad actors across the globe.)



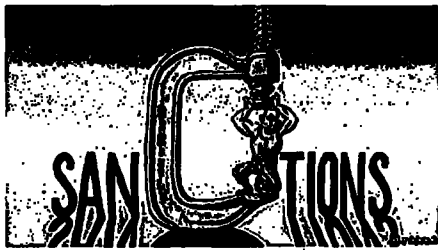
Yes, some sanctions were imposed on Russia, but they weren't that tough, and Russia figures they came out ahead in the deal. Thus Putin has continued pushing the envelope in eastern Ukraine, hoping through aggressive military action to annex even more territory from Ukraine to Russia. The Obama Administration refused to assist the Ukrainians by arming them, and unfortunately the Trump Administration, at least thus far, hasn't agreed to supply Ukraine with defensive weapons either.



My view is that Putin will continue to push until he meets serious resistance. And that is where I believe Donald Trump should come in. Trump should tell Putin, in no uncertain terms, that he must get out of Crimea, and cease hostilities in the rest of Ukraine. Further, Putin should be told to back off the growing pressure he has been exerting on other eastern European nations, like Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Poland. In the Middle East, Putin should be told that Russian targeting of anti-Assad forces, rather than of ISIS, is not only unwelcome, but will no longer be tolerated. And the buzzing of U.S. planes and ships by Russian planes, must cease immediately, or else.



Trump should inform Putin that he will be working closely with Congress first, and then with American allies, to dramatically tighten sanctions against Russia until all of the above are accomplished. The only thing Putin understands, and yields to, is power. And the U.S. has a lot more of it than Putin does - we just haven't been using it.



Anyway, that's what I would do. Unless of course the crazy libs are right, and Trump and Putin have been in cahoots all along. In that case, we're in big trouble.

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Back from Ukraine

May 21st, 2014

Posted by Steve

As I begin writing this week's blog, I'm on a plane somewhere over Ukraine, on my way back to the United States. Congress was not in session for the past week, and I've been accompanied on this trip by Democratic Congressman Steve Lynch of Massachusetts. Our mission was to assess the political situation in Ukraine, meet with our embassy personnel on the ground there who are protecting the interests of the United States, and meet with Ukrainian officials, most importantly Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk, who leads this country that is facing off at an existential time in its history, against Russia's power-hungry Vladimir Putin.



Photo with Prime Minister Yatsenyuk

Some background. Ukraine is a nation of 44 million people, that's strategically located between Russia and the West. It's slightly smaller than the state of Texas, and is a former satellite of the Soviet Union, having gained its independence in 1991, when the communist Soviet Union was breaking apart. Kiev is its capital.

Ukraine has had a rocky existence since gaining its independence. Russia has looked greedily at Ukraine since their separation as Ukraine is considered the breadbasket of Eurasia, being the third largest producer of grain globally. One event which illustrates the lengths to which Russia will go to maintain its influence over Ukraine, was the dioxin poisoning of presidential reform candidate, Viktor Yushchenko, by Russian agents. (He survived, but was shockingly disfigured for life as a result of Russia's attempt on his life (see the two accompanying photos.)



Steve Chabot

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More recently, in 2010, another Viktor, this time Viktor Yanukovich, was elected president, and was pulling Ukraine more into the sphere of Russia and away from the West. He was particularly corrupt, and targeted his pro-Western electoral opposition for selective prosecution. He had his opponent in the presidential election imprisoned on trumped-up charges. Then late last year he unexpectedly reneged on an agreement with the European Union, and turned to Russia instead.

Pro-Western protesters, mostly young people, took to the streets, urging the government to reform and allow a free and open society not under the Russian yoke. Yanukovich's thugs responded by viciously attacking and beating the peaceful protesters. Then in a particularly notorious incident, more than 100 peaceful protesters were gunned down in Maidan (Independence) Square. The reaction of the Ukrainian people was to increase the number of protesters from a few thousand to a half million. Support for the regime collapsed, and the corrupt Yanukovich fled to Russia. An interim pro-Western government was put into place, and elections for president will be held this weekend.

Russia's Vladimir Putin, of course, has attempted to take advantage of the instability in Ukraine to reestablish Russian influence over Ukraine. He first grabbed the Crimean region of Ukraine by sending in heavily armed, non-uniformed Russian-speaking troops, first seizing the airports, media outlets, police stations, and other government buildings. He then held a bogus referendum to claim that the people of Crimea wanted to leave Ukraine and become part of Russia. Then he just annexed Crimea.

When Putin saw just how weak the West's response was to the seizure of Crimea (the Europeans because of their "green" energy policy are so dependent on Russian gas and oil that they fear challenging Putin) and the Obama Administration as usual "leading from behind", Putin saw an opportunity to grab even more territory. He's doing this in eastern and southern Ukraine by placing 40 thousand troops on Ukraine's border, and sending in armed thugs to occupy key government buildings and foment instability. These thugs are often led by Russian intelligence agents and out-of-uniform Russian military and police personnel. These Russian infiltrators then try to make it appear that there is a desire by the people to join Russia.

Putin will continue his aggression just as long as he thinks he can get away with it. He believes our European allies are weak, and so dependent on Russian energy resources that they will do very little to resist his aggressive actions. And Putin's assessment of Obama is that he is indecisive and lacks resolve. In my opinion, he's correct on both counts. And if he can devour Crimea, and other chunks of Ukraine, then Poland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Moldova, will be next on his menu.

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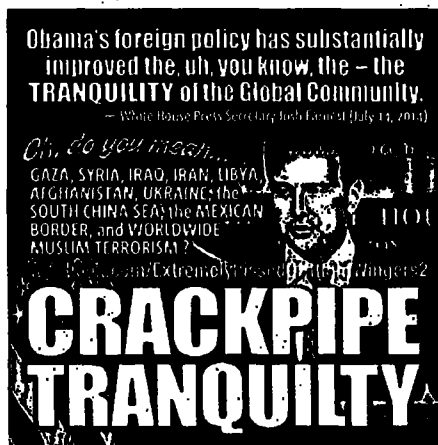
The Two Stupidest Comments of the Year

July 23rd, 2014

Posted by Steve

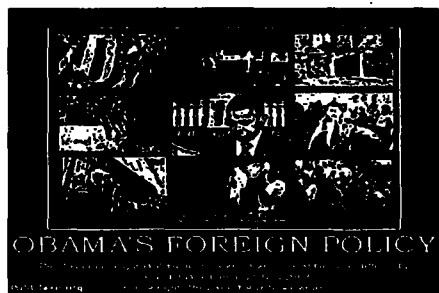
I'm not going to say they rank up there with "we've got to pass the bill to find out what's in it" (Nancy Pelosi) or "read my lips, no new taxes" (George H. W. Bush) or "peace for our time" (British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain) but the two quotes I'm going to discuss this week are easily the stupidest statements made so far this year.

I'd first like to nominate President Obama's relatively new press spokesman, Josh Earnest (at least he's got a good name.) Earnest claimed that the Obama Administration has brought "tranquility" to the "global community." TRANQUILITY?



Let's take a look at "tranquility" on the world scene under the Obama Administration.

ISIS is on the march in Iraq, which has gone from relative stability when Obama took over the reins from George W. Bush, to resembling a carcass being torn apart by Al-Qaeda-aligned ISIS and our number one enemy, Iran.



Syria continues to be a cauldron of death and misery, where Bashar al Assad remains in control of at least some of this so-called country, and Al-Qaeda-linked groups control most of the rest where they're busy raping, pillaging, murdering, and persecuting what's left of the Christian community, and imposing sharia law. Obama's much scoffed at "red line" there is only remembered when America's enemies in the region are



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reminiscing about the once great, once feared, United States of America. The reality is that as a result of the Obama Administration's feckless policies, America's friends no longer trust us, and our enemies no longer fear us.

Hamas has been firing rocket after rocket from Gaza into Israel for months now. Israel has finally had enough, and after targeting Hamas rocket launch sites with planes and artillery, has now launched a ground offensive into Gaza. Secretary of State John Kerry's mission to bring peace to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict was a total failure. It's war, although probably of a relatively short duration.



China is flexing its muscle in the South China Sea, bullying its neighbors, and sea skirmishes between naval vessels and fishing boats have been occurring more and more regularly. Although it hasn't attracted much attention in the world press, it's China vs Vietnam and Japan and South Korea and Taiwan and the Philippines. So much for President Obama's famous pivot from the Middle East to Asia. China is growing its military strength exponentially; the U.S. under Obama is getting weaker.



A few more instances of tranquility around the globe. Libya, post-Gaddafi, and post the murder of a U.S. Ambassador, is heading south fast. 300 innocent Nigerian schoolgirls are still in the loving hands of the murderous terror group, Boko Haram. Iran still marches towards possessing nuclear weapons, despite the sham negotiations currently taking place. And Vladimir Putin is playing the Obama Administration and our western allies as patsies, as he slowly but steadily reconstitutes the former Russian empire. He's already grabbed parts of Georgia, the Crimea and eastern regions of Ukraine, and his pro-Russian allies have just shot down a Malaysian airliner over Ukraine, killing 298 innocent travelers. Of course Putin's comrades are busily spinning tales that Ukrainians actually shot the plane down when they were allegedly firing at Putin's plane, or that the plane was already full of dead bodies before the plane was shot down, in an elaborate plan to blame Russia for the disaster.

So much for our tranquil world. Now for the other stupidest comment of the year. The award goes to, none other than, Democratic Senate Majority Leader, Harry Reid, who last week when referring to the U.S. border with Mexico, declared that "the border is secure." WHAT!?



What planet does this guy live on? Has he watched anything on T.V. or read a newspaper recently? We've got tens of thousands of unaccompanied children flooding into America across our border with Mexico, and "the

border is secure?" Unbelievable. It's hard to take Harry Reid seriously anymore.



Unfortunately, many Americans aren't even aware that Senator Reid made this inane declaration, because much of the press didn't even report it. If a Republican had made such a provably inaccurate comment, it would have been covered extensively. Remember Todd Akin?

Anyway, those are my nominations for stupidest comments (by politicians) of the year. Let me know what you think.

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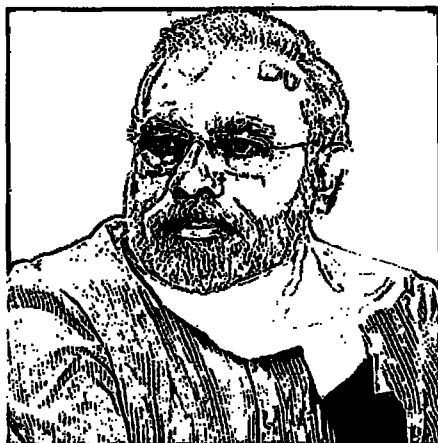
Hope in India; Fear in the Baltics

August 27th, 2014

Posted by Steve

In my capacity as a senior member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, I just returned from India, Poland and Lithuania. I was accompanied by Democratic Congressman Lloyd Doggett of Texas and Republican Congressman Luke Messer of Indiana. (I've known Congressman Doggett for nearly 20 years as we were both first elected in 1994.)

India is the world's largest democracy, has four times the population of the United States, and is expected to pass China as the world's most populous nation in the not too distant future. This is a particularly significant time in U.S. - India relations, as the Indian people just elected a new leader, Prime Minister Narendra Modi.



Modi ran on a platform of economic growth and good governance (India has long been plagued by corruption and stifling bureaucracy), and there seems to be a prevailing confidence that he may be just the right leader there at the right time. He was previously a quite successful chief minister (similar to a governor) of the Indian state of Gujarat. It is hoped that he'll bring the same skills he displayed in Gujarat to all of India.



Since India is becoming a more and more important trading partner to the United States, his success could be positive for the United States, particularly in the area of economic growth and job creation. India is also seen as an important counterweight to China, the United States' probable principal rival on the world's stage over the next century. The U.S. - India relationship is considered to be a "strategic partnership," but only time will tell whether our relationship with India will be as positive as it should be. It needs to be handled right.



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Next, Eastern Europe. I had traveled to Ukraine, with Democratic Congressman Steve Lynch of Massachusetts, back in May, shortly after Russia grabbed Crimea. Putin has since shifted his attention to other eastern portions of Ukraine. Ukraine's neighbors, particularly Poland and the Baltic countries (Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania), all of whom had been behind the communist iron curtain until the fall of the former Soviet Union in 1989, feel threatened by Putin's aggression and refusal to recognize international boundaries. Our European NATO allies, and the Obama Administration's response to this aggression, was in my view, and in the view of many foreign policy experts, embarrassingly weak.



While in Ukraine, we met with the Ukrainian Prime Minister. He made it abundantly clear that whereas they appreciated what help the Obama Administration had given them (not much), their survival and that of their neighboring democracies need our, and NATO's, help.

On our way back from India, Congressmen Messer and Doggett and I spent several days in Poland and Lithuania. We first met with our embassy teams in both Warsaw and Vilnius to get the most up-to-date assessment of the situation on the ground in each country, and then met with representatives of the Polish and Lithuanian governments, including the Deputy Foreign Minister of Poland, and the Foreign Minister of Lithuania, the Prime Minister of Lithuania, and Members of the Lithuanian Parliament.



There is considerable concern in Poland and Lithuania that Putin will continue his dangerous aggression unless he's convinced that the West will stand up to him. Both Poland and Lithuania would like to have a permanent American military presence in their countries. This is something Congress and the Obama Administration need to have serious discussions about. We should insist that all our NATO allies devote more of their budgets to strengthening their own defenses, so they're less dependent on the United States for their security.

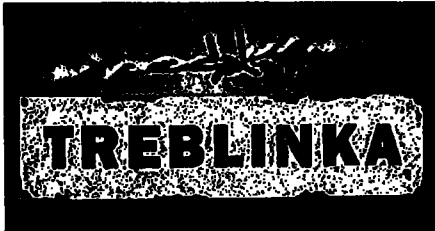
Also, most European countries are far too dependent on Russian sources of energy, making them subject to economic blackmail. Lithuania, for example, gets 100% of its natural gas from Russia, and 60% of its electricity.

Leaders in both countries said they'd far prefer to buy LNG (liquefied natural gas) from the United States. We have this in abundance and the Obama Administration and Congress should work together to modernize our existing rules and regulations which make exporting this product virtually impossible at the present time. Thousands and thousands of good paying American jobs can be created if we're smart about this.



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On a more somber note, while in Poland, we drove from the capitol, Warsaw, to the Nazi death camp of Treblinka, about 60 miles outside the city. From July 1942 to August 1943, 900,000 lives, mostly Jewish, were exterminated at Treblinka by Hitler and his murderers. And in Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania, we spent about an hour with a 92-year-old survivor, in what was the Jewish ghetto until virtually every Jewish man, woman, and child were exterminated. Her mother, father, sister, and every one of her relatives was killed. She was one of the only occupants of the ghetto who escaped, and joined the partisan underground fighting the Germans until the end of the war. It was incredibly moving to listen to this 92-year-old woman, who witnessed firsthand the most horrific event in mankind's history.



And finally, in Vilnius we spent about an hour with Democratic Senator Bill Nelson of Florida, who was on a different CODEL (Congressional Delegation.) We principally discussed our impressions from our separate meetings with various government officials, and what the U.S. response should be to Russian aggression. It's good to see representatives of both political parties able to rationally discuss matters important to our nation.

One interesting fact about Senator Nelson. He was only the second United States Senator to fly on the Space Shuttle (the first was Senator Jake Garn of Utah.) Senator Nelson returned to Earth on the Space Shuttle Columbia, just ten days before the Challenger exploded shortly after takeoff. The Columbia, on which the Senator traveled, was also lost several years later, when it broke apart across the United States, killing all the crew.

I asked him if there was anything that stuck out in his mind about his flight. He said he'll always remember looking down at the earth, and it was mostly blue, and very beautiful. He went on to say that he could see earth's continents and oceans and thought about there being no borders visible, and that it seemed a shame so many people down there divide themselves into different groups, and are so often fighting with each other. Interesting thought.

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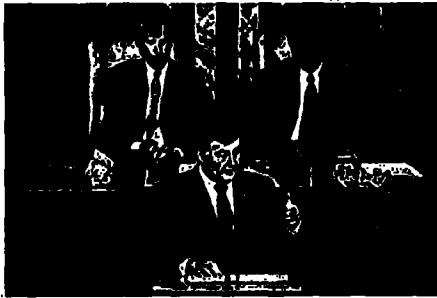
Steve's Blog

Sorry, You're On Your Own

September 24th, 2014

Posted by Steve

Ukraine's recently elected President, Petro Poroshenko, addressed a joint session of Congress last Thursday. He gave an impassioned speech, asking for U.S. help against Russia's Vladimir Putin, who has already annexed Ukraine's Crimean region, and is attempting to gobble up additional portions of eastern Ukraine.



President Poroshenko also met with President Obama in the Oval Office, where he desperately sought military equipment, specifically weapons, so Ukraine can defend herself from the Russian juggernaut. What he got from Obama, was the back of his hand. Obama refuses to provide weapons, because he, and some of our European NATO allies, fear that this would provoke Russia.



Baloney! The Russians have been aggressively attacking Ukraine for months now. Helping Ukraine defend herself with appropriate weaponry isn't going to provoke an already hungry and aggressive Russian bear, but it just might be enough to hold it at bay. Bullies like Putin understand and respect power; they take advantage of and prey upon weakness.

The Obama Administration has agreed to assist Ukraine with so-called non-lethal items, like uniforms, tents, MRE's (meals ready to eat), and blankets, but no weapons. Ukraine's President, Poroshenko, thanked the Obama Administration for the offered items, but added "one cannot win a war with blankets." And of course, he's right.

President Obama meanwhile last week attended yet another of the many political fundraisers he's devoted so much of his time to; this time in Maryland. While speaking at the event, Obama commented "what happens in Ukraine doesn't pose a direct threat to us."

This is both naive, and short-sighted. Vladimir Putin is in the process of reconstituting the old Soviet empire. He will continue to push as long as he believes he can get away with it. He's smart, and cunning, and relentless.



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The Obama-created power vacuum around the world is dangerous, not only to freedom-loving peoples across the globe, but ultimately to the United States itself. When the U.S. leads, the world is a safer place. When we "lead from behind", or fail to lead at all, not only is the world a more dangerous place, but Americans are less safe. I only wish this Administration understood that.

Post Script: In less than a week (Tuesday, September 30th), the third quarter of this campaign cycle ends. All Congressional candidates (including me) must report how much we've raised for our Congressional campaigns. If you haven't given yet, or you're able to give a little more, I'd greatly appreciate your help. You can make a secure online contribution by clicking [here](#), or you can send a check to Chabot for Congress, 632 Vine Street, Suite 805, Cincinnati, OH 45202. Thanks so much. See you next week..

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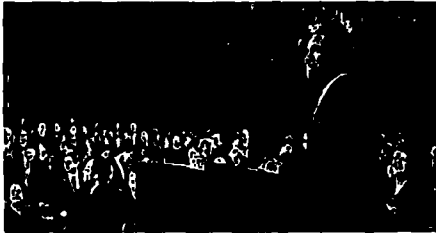
Obama's Last State of the Union Address: What He SHOULD Have Said

January 13th, 2016

Posted by Steve

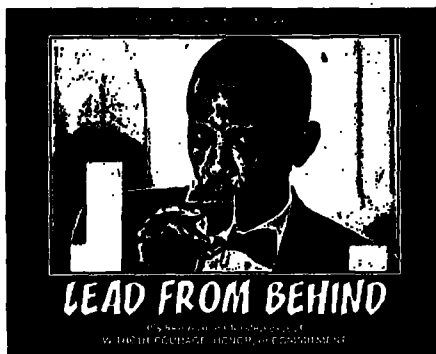
"Well this is it, America. The last time I'll have the opportunity to come before a joint session of Congress, and address the nation, in prime time. And I've decided to do something different. I'm going to turn off my teleprompter, and not read that speech that my crack staff and pollsters and wordsmiths have been working on the last few months. They had put together a legacy list of my accomplishments over the last seven years, and a laundry list of things I'd propose doing over the upcoming year, knowing full well that this stuff had no chance of getting through Congress.

Instead of that, I'm going to do something completely different. Something I honestly haven't done in a long time – I'm going to level with you. I'm going to tell you the complete truth, with the hope that maybe I can salvage what's left of my presidency, that offered so much hope and change when it began.



Okay, here goes. It is truly a dangerous world out there. I really didn't believe that when I took over. I thought most of the world's problems were that we, the United States, just threw our weight around too much. That if we'd just talk more to the so-called 'bad guys' around the world, not isolate them, I could reason with them. The leaders in Iran, Cuba, Russia, and North Korea for example acted the way they did because of the way we treated them. I don't want to simplify this too much, but basically if we were nicer to them, they would be nicer to us.

Boy did I miss the boat on that one. The truth is, we treated them the way we did, because of the long term actions of their leaders. They were pariah because they treated their neighbors, and their own people, so poorly. And I've come to realize that if the United States doesn't lead, no one else will. My so-called 'leading from behind' strategy, just didn't work. I never liked that label, but it was accurate. I wish I'd followed the example of Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Ronald Reagan on this, but I didn't. And I'm sorry.



Steve Chabot

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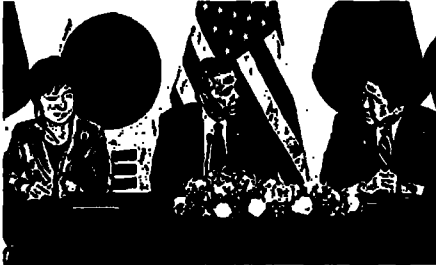
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Let me give you one specific example of how I'm going to change. We've got this nut-case leader of North Korea, Kim Jung Un, and his father and grandfather before him, who've been provoking us, and the rest of the world, for far too long. His latest stunt is to set off another nuclear device that he claims was a hydrogen bomb. And he has missiles which could probably reach the United States. Now short of sending American troops, and getting a lot of them killed, the only real way of exerting pressure on Kim is through China. China provides most of North Korea's food and fuel. But China refuses to really do anything to get North Korea to back off. All we get is lip service from China.



So I'm announcing this evening that I am sending my Secretary of State to both Japan and South Korea, to enter into immediate negotiations. The purpose of these talks will be to discuss the feasibility, and potential timeframe, of each of these countries developing defensive nuclear weapons programs themselves. Now I know China will strenuously object to this proposal, as will obviously North Korea. But it is the only thing which has any chance of motivating China to pressure North Korea to abandon its nuclear program. And North Korea must abandon that program, for the security of the United States, and the rest of the world. I am firm in my commitment to this new initiative.



Okay, a few other foreign affairs issues. With respect to Iran, I was way too optimistic about them. I really wanted to stop their nuclear weapons program. So I pushed for a deal with them. And even though Congress and the American people were against it, I signed it anyway. Now they're already testing missile systems which prove to me that they have no intention of complying with the agreement. So I'm going to declare that they are in violation of the agreement, and ask Congress to work with me to impose even stronger sanctions. I should have worked with Congress in the first place, rather than circumvented them. After all, they are the elected representatives of the American people.



Now with respect to Russia, I should have learned from my predecessor's mistake. George Bush famously looked into Vladimir Putin's eyes and said he could see into his soul. He thought he was somebody he could work with. Then Putin invaded the independent country of Georgia, seizing the Georgian regions of South Ossetia and Abkhazia.

Rather than being wary of Putin, I sent my first Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton, to push her famous 'reset' button with Russia's foreign minister Sergey Lavrov. Then I canceled our defensive missile programs in Poland and the Czech Republic, so as not to offend Russia. Unfortunately, not only did we make ourselves and our allies more vulnerable to Iranian incoming missiles, and make our allies like Poland and the Czech Republic question the wisdom of relying on our commitment, but it sent a clear message to Putin early in my presidency.

(that we could be pushed around. I'm afraid that resulted in Putin's brazenly invading Ukraine, annexing Crimea, and propping up Assad in Syria. Unfortunately, with only a year left in my presidency, I don't know what to do to truly reset our current relationship with Russia. I guess I'll have to leave that to Trump. Oops. Sorry. Don't read anything into that. I guess I should have said Hillary. After all, even though I'm trying to be honest here, I'm still a Democrat.



And with respect to ISIS, I have to take responsibility for its very existence. Many brave Americans, and Iraqis who fought beside us, had given their lives to prevail in Iraq. A fairly stable situation had been attained after the success of the so-called surge. Virtually all my military advisors had strongly recommended that after the war in Iraq had been won, a small contingency force of 10,000 to 20,000 troops be kept in Iraq to secure the peace. Of course we'd done this in Europe following WWII and in Korea following that conflict. But I'd made a campaign promise that I'd pull our troops out of Iraq, and that was more important to me at the time than the security of our nation. I made a terrible mistake. It resulted in a power vacuum that was filled by the likes of ISIS.

So this evening, I'm announcing that rather than continue with the token military action I've ordered thus far, with limited air strikes, we're going to destroy ISIS. After all, their poisonous ideology is spreading over the Internet to terrorists around the world – from Paris, to San Bernardino, to Philadelphia just this past weekend. We've got to stop this cancer. And it begins now.



Now as to changes in my domestic policies..."

(Unfortunately, due to the fact that President Obama's speech went on for an hour, and I strive to take no more than a few minutes of my faithful blog readers' precious time each week, I had to cut the President off there. See you next week.)

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Putin is Making Obama Look Like A Schmuck

April 20th, 2016

Posted by Steve

Everybody seemed to think that Donald Trump was going to win big in New York yesterday -- and he did. And most people thought that Hillary Clinton was going to beat Bernie Sanders in New York, the state she represented for 8 years in the United States Senate, and she did, although not quite as huge.



But to be honest with you, I'm a little tired of talking about, and writing about, the presidential race. A number of the candidates are driving me a little nuts with some of the things they're saying, and doing, and claiming, and accusing their opponents of.



So I decided to take a break from the campaign this week. To write about something entirely different for a change, and something that's important. And that's that Russia's Vladimir Putin is running circles around our President, Barack Obama. Eating his lunch. And not only is it embarrassing for Barack Obama, but it's dangerous for our country.



Steve Chabot

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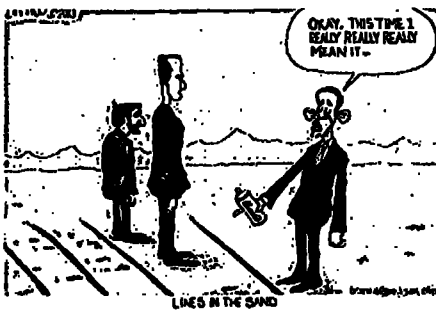
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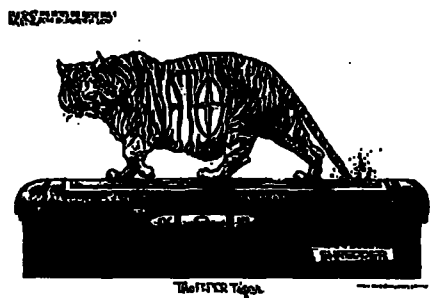
Around the same time, Obama was busy playing Ham military force in Syria, or not? After hemming and hawing about chemical weapons by Syria was the red line. Use chemical weapons...being utilized...that would change my calculation. "and everyone has made it clear to the Syrian regime, world."



Of course Syria did use chemical weapons, sarin gas specifically, killing hundreds and hundreds of people. And despite what the Obama Administration had said they'd do, they did nothing. Putin saw an opportunity to boost Russian prestige, so he stepped in with a Russian plan for Syria to turn its chemical weapons over to international control. In essence, Putin bailed out a dithering Barack Obama. Putin appeared decisive, and formidable: Obama appeared indecisive, and weak, and lost.



And then there's Ukraine. By this time, Putin had had plenty of opportunities to take the measure of Barack Obama. Putin knew he could do virtually anything, and there'd be a nonchalant response by the Obama Administration, but no real action. He knew that our NATO allies were so dependent on Russian energy supplies, that they wouldn't risk any real action against Russia either. Besides, what European military forces are there nowadays? Very few of the NATO countries spend anywhere near the 2% of GDP that they're committed to spending for their militaries. NATO is arguably a hollowed-out paper tiger. Putin knows this. Maybe not obsolete, as Donald Trump was roundly criticized for saying. But certainly not the finely-tuned machine that was envisioned to protect the free countries of Europe from becoming like their Eastern European brethren behind what Winston Churchill had aptly named an Iron Curtain.



So masked by the goodwill of the Sochi Olympic games, Putin decided to make his move against his former vassal state, Ukraine. Putin began by invading Crimea, then holding a bogus referendum vote, which he used as an excuse to outright annex Crimea. The West lamely protested, but again did nothing. Russia has continued its incursion into Eastern Ukraine for several years now. The Ukrainians have fought bravely, but they are outgunned. The Obama Administration has sent blankets and MRE's (meals ready to eat) but still refuses to provide what Ukraine really needs, sophisticated weapons so they have a fighting chance to defend themselves against Russian aggression.



In the last several years, I've traveled to Ukraine, and to Poland, and the Baltic nations, Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia. I've met with my counterparts in their parliaments, I've met with presidents and prime ministers, and generals, and soldiers, and ambassadors, and our country teams at our embassies, throughout the region. And my conclusion is that these nations, our allies, are scared to death of what Russia will do next, and for good reason. Russia could move in, militarily, or through the use of thug militias, or ethnically Russian sympathizers already within these countries, or by a combination of all these tactics, virtually at any time. And there's reason to believe that the West's response would be — not much. And whether or not that's true, Putin has every reason to believe that it is true. And it's my belief that he will do virtually whatever he believes he can get away with.



All you have to do is look at what Putin did last week. Russian fighter jets made simulated attacks on an American warship in international waters, coming dangerously close to the ship. Then just days later, Russian fighters did the same thing again, this time making a threatening run at a U.S. reconnaissance plane in international airspace, coming within just feet of hitting our plane. This provocative and dangerous behavior would never have occurred if Putin believed he was dealing with a truly capable and determined Administration.



The bottom line is, due to the Obama Administration's intentional withdrawal from America's traditional leadership role, there is a power vacuum around the globe. And that vacuum is being filled by bad actors. From China building islands in the South China Sea, to the cancerous growth of ISIS in the Middle East following the withdrawal of all U.S. troops from Iraq, to Putin running amok in Eastern Europe and elsewhere, the bad actors are on the march. And the Obama Administration watches passively as the parade goes by, sitting on the sidelines. Contemplating the really important issues, like climate change.

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Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Armenia

August 17th, 2016

Posted by Steve

Folks, I'm taking a break from the presidential election this week. Not talking about Trump. Not talking about Hillary. Not going to analyze the latest allegation against either candidate. Not going to critique the mainstream press's latest example of bias against Trump, or in favor of Hillary (oops, couldn't help myself...)



Steve Chabot

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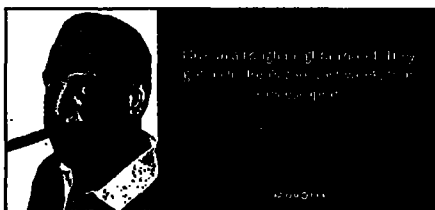
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What I am going to talk about this week, is a part of the world, which is often ignored by much of the rest of the world. And that's despite the fact that this region, could play a critical role in the ongoing conflict between civilization and radical Islam, East vs West, and Putin's attempt to reconstitute the former Soviet Union. That region is the Caucasus.



The Caucasus sits at the crossroads of Europe and Asia. It lies between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea. It consists of parts of Iran, Turkey, and Russia (including Chechnya and Dagestan); and all of the nations of Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Armenia. It's a very tough neighborhood.



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In my capacity as a senior member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, and Chairman of the House Small Business Committee, I just returned yesterday from visiting Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Armenia. The purpose of the mission was to assess the current status of U.S. relations with each of these nations, including economic, political, military, and national security issues. I learned a lot, and thought I'd share it with you.

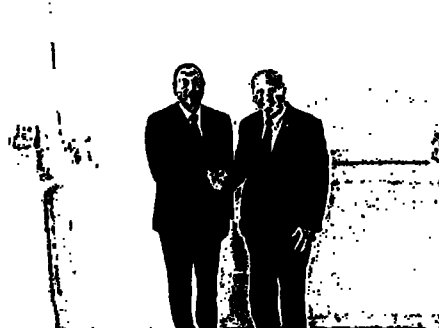


My first stop, Azerbaijan. First a few facts about Azerbaijan. Like Georgia, and Armenia, Azerbaijan was behind the Iron Curtain (a part of the former Soviet Union), until 1991. It's a secular Shia Muslim nation of about 10 million people. Azerbaijan is about the size of Maine. One of our principal interests in Azerbaijan for decades has been that they are a major oil and natural gas producer. Since much of the oil under the land has already been exploited, most of the current and future drilling will be off their shore in the Caspian Sea. And the United States is working with Azerbaijan to build pipelines to allow oil and gas to be piped directly to Europe.

Otherwise, our European allies will continue to be so dependent upon Russian sources of energy, that they are easily intimidated by Putin's threat to cut off their source of energy if they stand up with the United States against Putin's bullying.



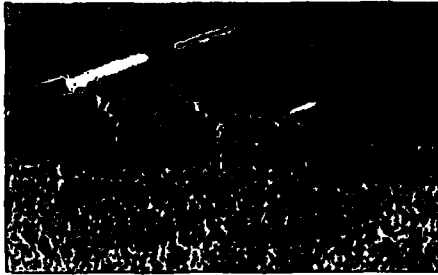
Having been under the Soviet Union's domination for nearly 80 years, Azerbaijan still has some Soviet bad habits, such as corruption, a not-so-independent judicial system, insufficient rule of law, lack of transparency, and bureaucracy, (even worse than ours.) After first discussing these issues in detail with our Ambassador, and our Embassy personnel, I raised them in a meeting I had with Azerbaijan's President, Ilham Aliyev.



I also met with Azerbaijan's Minister of Defense, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of the Economy, and the American Chamber of Commerce, among others. At all these meetings, I thanked Azerbaijan for standing side by side with the United States and our NATO allies, in sending Azhiri troops to Kosovo, Iraq and Afghanistan.



One final point about Azerbaijan. They have been in an ongoing dispute with their neighbor Armenia, over a portion of Azerbaijan which was lost in a conflict with Armenia, called Nagorno-Karabakh, about 25 years ago. Fighting breaks out here every few years, most recently in April of this year, when approximately 200 Azerbaijanis and Armenians were killed. Putin has now stepped in and is trying to broker a deal. Of course the way Putin operates is to look for weakness or instability, and exploit it for his own purposes. We should keep a close eye on this.



Next, Georgia (the country of course, not the state.) First, a little background on Georgia. Like Azerbaijan, Georgia gained its freedom from the former Soviet Union in 1991. It's a nation approximately the size of West Virginia, and has 3.7 million people. Its capital is Tbilisi. They claim to be the most pro-American nation on earth (although I have traveled to a few other nations who make that same claim, such as Albania.) Putin has been trying to bring Georgia back into Russia's sphere of influence for some time now. Similar to Putin's aggression in Ukraine in taking over Crimea, he invaded Georgia back in 2008, taking over two regions of Georgia - Abkhazia and South Ossetia, which together constituted 20% of Georgia's territory.



I had a slew of meetings while in Georgia, but without doubt, the most important was with their head of state, Prime Minister Giorgi Kvirikashvili. Georgia is strongly seeking our and NATO's support to stand up to the Russians, and I think they should have it. They are one of our allies that is actually living up to their commitment to us. For example, they have sent more of their soldiers per capita to fight with us in Afghanistan, than any of our other allies. And unlike most of our allies, who have failed to meet the NATO requirement that they devote at least 2% of their GDP to military spending (only 5 of the 28 NATO members meet that commitment), Georgia has met the 2% requirement. And that's even though Georgia hasn't yet been officially admitted into NATO. They ought to be.



Last, but not least, Armenia. And as I did with the other two countries, first some basic information on Armenia. It's about the size of Maryland, and has a population of approximately 3 million. Interestingly, Armenia is said to be the first nation to formally adopt Christianity, which occurred in the early part of the 4th century. Also interestingly, Mt. Ararat, where Noah according to the Bible landed his ark and all those animals, can be seen from Armenia's capital, Yerevan. Mt. Ararat is the symbol of Armenia and is on its coat of arms, but is now located in Turkey. That's because Turkey took Mt. Ararat along with other Armenian territory in the Turkish-Armenian War in 1921.



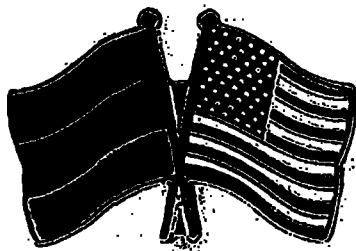
While in Armenia, I met with a whole range of Armenian officials, from the Minister of Defense (comparable to our Secretary of Defense), to the Minister of Economics, to a group of Parliamentarians, and so on. The subject that came up over and over was Nagorno-Karabakh. Of course their view on the topic is exactly the opposite of the way Azerbaijan sees it. And here's the concern Georgia should have. Azerbaijan has significant oil and natural gas reserves. Georgia does not. Azerbaijan is therefore spending a great deal of their oil and gas money on rapidly building up their military. Georgia is not going to be able to keep up with this. So what should the U.S. do? We should do everything we can to help keep both sides talking, rather than shooting at each other. Otherwise, another even fiercer war, one that could greatly destabilize the whole region, is a real possibility.

STOP A WAR

Another topic that's at the forefront of Armenian thoughts, actually occurred 100 years ago – the Armenian Genocide. 1.5 million Armenians were slaughtered at the hands of the Ottoman Empire (modern day Turkey.) There were of course atrocities committed on both sides. Armenia has been trying to get the mass killings recognized by the world as a "genocide", but Turkey has strongly resisted this over the years. Hitler is alleged to have said, while contemplating the extermination of the Jews, "Who still talks nowadays of the extermination of the Armenians?"



Our relationship with Armenia can, at times, be quite frustrating. Particularly disappointing was their vote at the UN to, in essence, recognize Russia's annexation of Crimea. The fact is, Armenia has had a close relationship with Russia for many years. Despite this fact, because Armenia is located in a region strategically important to U.S. interests, we should stay engaged with Armenia.



Thanks for taking the time to read this week's blog, which may have taken a while to get through. I hope you've learned a thing or two, as I did spending the last week in this challenging part of the world.

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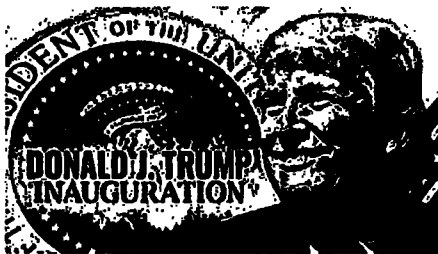
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The Inaugural Address Donald Trump Should Give (But Probably Won't)

January 18th, 2017

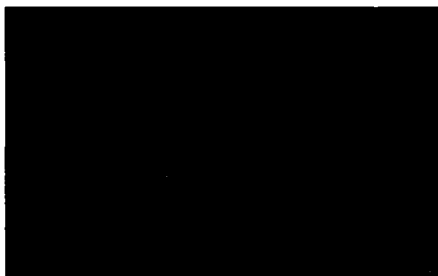
Posted by Steve

My fellow Americans. Thank you for the confidence you've shown in electing me your 45th President. I fully realize that half the nation would have preferred someone else being sworn in today – actually a little more than half, especially in California. In light of this, it's my commitment to you, that I intend to truly be, President of ALL the people, whether you voted for me or not.



Our nation has been too divided, for too long. Often during campaigns nowadays, things are said, charges are made, which are untrue, unfair, and unnecessary. It happens on both sides. And it must stop. And it's up to me to set an example.

As you may know, I have a reputation for never apologizing, or admitting I was wrong – about anything. Well I'd like to turn over a new leaf, and acknowledge where I have been wrong. It's not easy for me, but here goes.



I said some pretty insensitive things over the course of the last campaign. Some of my supporters probably agreed with some of the things I said. But mostly I think my supporters were willing to overlook some pretty stupid comments, because they were so dissatisfied with the lack of leadership in Washington, and especially dissatisfied with the candidate the other party was offering. So my supporters stuck with me, even though they may not have agreed with, or liked, what I said.



Steve Chabot

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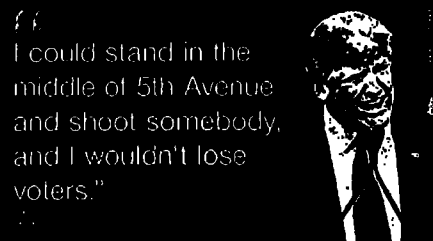
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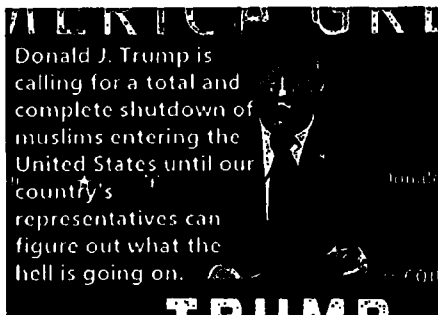
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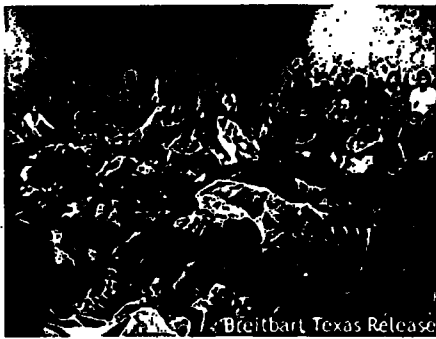
Anyway, I'd like to apologize for some of the things that, as I look back now, I shouldn't have said. For example, I shouldn't have labeled Mexican immigrants with the broad brush of being criminals and rapists. There obviously are some who are. But it was unfair to the vast majority, who are merely seeking a better life for themselves and their families. That being said, we're still going to build a wall. A great wall. A beautiful wall. Although I have to admit, it might be a little tougher to find a credible way to get Mexico to pay for it. But I'm working on it.



And related to immigration, shortly after that dastardly attack on innocent Americans in San Bernardino by ISIS sympathizers, I called for a total ban on Muslims entering the United States. Well it seemed like a good idea at the time, and a lot of people agreed with me. It probably even helped me in the polls. But it was wrong to brand a whole group of people, or a whole religion, for the actions of a minority.



As many of you know, my initial position evolved over time to something I later called extreme vetting of people from unstable places having a high degree of terror, like Syria and Libya and Iraq. I am committing my administration to playing a far greater leadership role in stabilizing those types of places, so people won't feel it's necessary to flee from their home countries in the first place. This also goes for unstable areas in our own hemisphere, like Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador. Less than optimal conditions in Central and South America have resulted in tens of thousands of unaccompanied minors showing up at our southern border. The Obama Administration has welcomed this onslaught of illegal immigrants, some prefer the label of undocumented workers, but whatever they're called, I intend to do what's necessary to get our borders under control and protect our nation.



A few more things I regret saying. In referring to POWs, I said I preferred people who weren't captured. That was just wrong, and I never should have said it. We must honor our POWs, and for that matter, all who have served. And even though John McCain gets under my skin sometimes, he most definitely IS a hero.



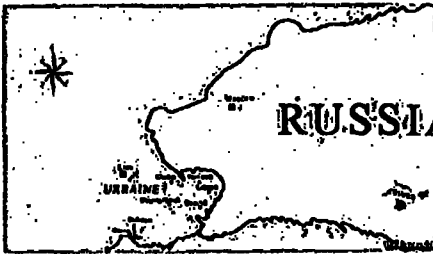
And speaking of someone else who gets under my skin — Ted Cruz — and no, I don't seriously think his father had anything to do with the Kennedy assassination. That was just crazy talk. One of my campaign people had seen something claiming this in a National Enquirer story. I should have considered the source, and ignored it. So to Ted Cruz, and to his father, I apologize.



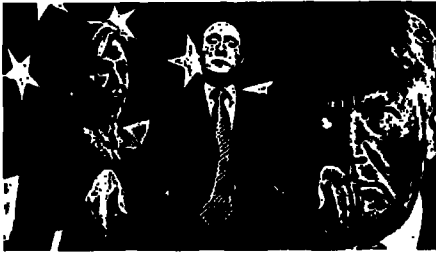
Now there has been a lot of concern expressed by some, that I'm too close to the Russians. They go so far as claiming that I owe my win to Russia's intervention. There's no validity to this. And whereas I do believe the U.S. and Russia could both benefit from better relations, I want to send a clear message to Vladimir Putin. Even though I believe NATO needs a considerable upgrading, the U.S. under my administration is committed to our NATO alliance, and will defend any NATO nation threatened by Russia, or by ISIS terrorists.



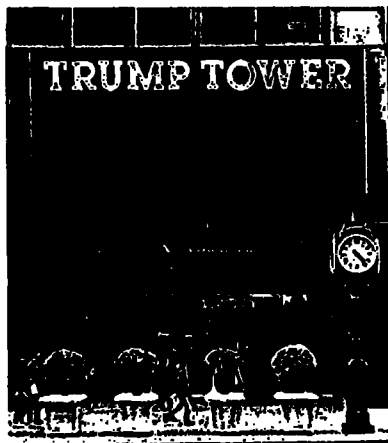
And, Vladimir, I'm giving you 60 days to pull all your troops, whether under Russian insignia, or whether they're your famous "little green men", from both Crimea and from other parts of eastern Ukraine. If you fail to do so, I will provide sophisticated weapons to the Ukrainian military, and impose the harshest of sanctions on Russia, among a host of other measures. Don't test me.



So, Vlad, if you were pulling for me, thanks. If you want to act like a civilized leader, in a civilized world, great. We'll get along fine. But if you continue to act like the world's thug, I'll be your worst enemy. And you should have been rooting for Hillary.



And finally, on the domestic front, I'm fully committed to the goals I talked about during the campaign: improving the economy, bringing jobs back to America, reforming the tax code, getting rid of Obamacare and replacing it with something better, and so on. But in retrospect, there's something I didn't talk about much. And that's getting our fiscal house in order – balancing the budget and starting to pay down our nearly \$20 trillion in debt. I wish I'd talked about it more during the campaign. I didn't. But after talking to a lot of folks whose opinions I respect, I'm now convinced we've got to tackle this problem before it's too late. So I'm committing to you, the American people, that the budget will be balanced by the time I leave office, or I will transfer 90% of my assets, including Trump Tower, to the U.S. Treasury to help pay down the national debt.



(President Trump's inaugural address went on for some time after this memorable promise, but in the interest of respecting your time, I'll stop there. See you next week.)

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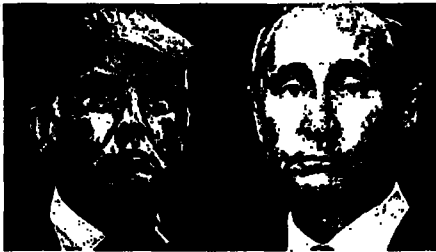
Steve's Blog

Let's Keep Our Eye on the Ball

March 8th, 2017

Posted by Steve

The press and the American Left have been chasing their tails for some time now, trying to prove that the Russians elected Donald Trump president. Yes, Trump does seem to have an odd fondness for Putin, despite the fact that this former KGB operative is a thug and a murderer. Some have even called it a man crush (whatever that is.)



The latest chapter in this saga occurred over the weekend when President Trump alleged that President Obama and his intelligence agencies had Trump Tower wire-tapped during the presidential campaign, presumably to prove some Trump/Russian connection. As usual, FOX News and The Right came to the Trump Administration's defense in this flap, the mainstream media and The Left say Trump's claims are irresponsible and outlandish and are a threat to democracy and all that is good.



I think we should all calm down, and let the facts take us where they may. But more importantly, I am concerned that all the political infighting is a distraction from something far more important. Despite having signed an agreement with the previous Obama Administration, Iran recently fired several ballistic missiles, one with a message on it written in Hebrew that read "Israel should be wiped off the earth." Iran then followed up several days later firing a number of Russian-made surface-to-air missiles. And if this wasn't bad enough, over the weekend, lunatic-led North Korea fired off four ballistic missiles, despite the rest of the world's warnings not to.



Steve Chabot

U.S. Representative

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THIS is what we really should be focused on. We very well could be approaching a point where several rogue nations either have, or soon will have, the ability and the desire to deliver and detonate a nuclear device on American soil.

First, some history. During World War II, the United States and Nazi Germany were secretly racing to be the first to harness the power of the atom as a weapon. Fortunately the United States won that race, and used the fearsome device against our then-enemy, Imperial Japan, twice, and thereby saved the lives of perhaps a million Americans, who would otherwise have been killed trying to take the Japanese homeland by force. Also fortunately, neither atomic nor hydrogen weapons have so far been used against a foe since 1945 (70+ years.) It is the world's ultimate challenge to see that this remains the case.

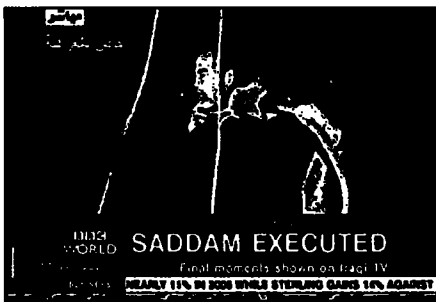


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Hiroshima

There have been a few close calls over the years. The Cuban Missile Crisis is one. The high-wire tension between India and Pakistan back in 1998, with both sides provocatively detonating test explosions is another.

Shortly after September 11th, President George W. Bush, in a speech before a joint session of Congress (I was there) famously declared that there was an "Axis of Evil" which had to be dealt with – Iraq, Iran, and North Korea. He obviously acted (some would argue over-acted) with respect to Iraq, and we saw the overthrow and subsequent execution of Saddam Hussein. But Iran and North Korea are still out there -arguably more dangerous than ever.



With respect to Iran, I would argue that the Obama Administration completely blew it. First of all, shortly after taking office, Obama scrapped a deal the Bush Administration had reached with our Polish and Czech allies to locate anti-ballistic missile systems in each country, to protect the United States and our European allies from Iranian inter-continental ballistic missiles. The main reason Obama did this, was to avoid offending Russia – the very thing Democrats accuse Trump of.



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Then Obama entered into the very flawed Iran Deal, which virtually guarantees that Iran will have nuclear weapons in the not-distant future. It of course also allowed \$150 billion to flow to the world's chief supporter of terrorism, Iran.



And as for North Korea, the Obama Administration left the Trump Administration a situation as dangerous as Iran, if not more so. North Korea has continued to move forward with a nuclear weapons program which will soon be able to hit the continental United States. North Korean leaders dismissed warnings by Barack Obama, just as they did from George Bush and Bill Clinton before him.



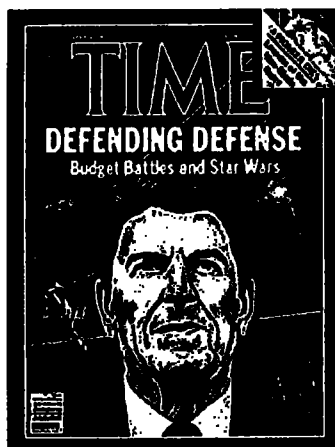
Here's my recommendation to the Trump Administration. The only country that has any real leverage with North Korea is China. The key is to convince China to use that leverage on North Korea. And the only thing I believe that will get China's attention, is if China's rivals in the region, Japan and South Korea, CONSIDER establishing nuclear weapons programs themselves. North Korea's provocative actions certainly justify this. I would advise the Trump Administration to enter into talks with Japan and South Korea about the possibility of beginning such programs. It's my opinion that such discussions would get China's attention, and that China might finally put pressure on North Korea to back off.



Interestingly, according to the New York Times, the outgoing president, Barack Obama, told the incoming president, Donald Trump, that North Korea would be "the most urgent problem" he would face. This is already proving to be the case.

And thank God that one of President Trump's predecessors, Ronald Reagan, didn't back down in the face of withering criticism from The Left and the mainstream press when Reagan proposed the development of an

anti-missile defense system. Reagan called this bullet-hitting-a-bullet effort the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI). His critics derisively referred to it as "Star Wars", and said it would never work.



Well, we've come a long way over the past 30 years in the development of this nuclear defense shield. It may just save Seattle, or San Francisco, or Los Angeles from a North Korean attack some day. And it probably already helped lead to the fall of the former Soviet Union, because our principal foe back then was unable to keep up with the cost of developing their own counter version of "Star Wars", and imploded.



The bottom line is, let's not get distracted by the hysterics of the day (or the latest tweet.) Let's instead stay focused on those things which are truly important. And protecting our nation from a nuclear-armed lunatic like Kim Jong Un, has to be at or near the top of the list.

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What Trump Should Tell Putin When They Meet This Week

July 5th, 2017

Posted by Steve

In a couple days, Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin will both be in Hamburg, Germany, for the G-20 Summit. It's been confirmed that the two leaders will meet there, for the first time since Trump became President.



Steve Chabot

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What should they talk about? Well a lot of liberals (progressives, Democrats, the mainstream press, whatever you want to call them), believe that Trump and Putin, or at least their surrogates, have been working together for some time, first to steal the election last November, and then to cover the whole thing up. So whatever Trump and Putin actually talk about behind closed doors, it will be assumed by many that they were up to no good.



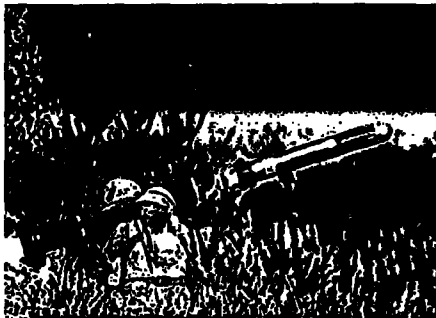
In my opinion, at the top of Trump's list should be — Crimea. Yes, Crimea. Much of the rest of the world has all but forgotten about Russia's hostile invasion and subsequent annexation of Crimea. It's been more than three years now. The feeble reaction by The West in general, and by the Obama Administration in particular, was embarrassing. And dangerous, because it invites future aggression by Russia, or by other bad actors across the globe.

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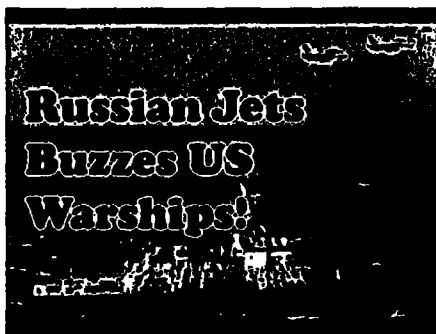
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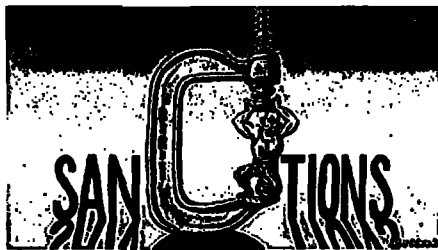
Yes, some sanctions were imposed on Russia, but they weren't that tough, and Russia figures they came out ahead in the deal. Thus Putin has continued pushing the envelope in eastern Ukraine, hoping through aggressive military action to annex even more territory from Ukraine to Russia. The Obama Administration refused to assist the Ukrainians by arming them, and unfortunately the Trump Administration, at least thus far, hasn't agreed to supply Ukraine with defensive weapons either.



My view is that Putin will continue to push until he meets serious resistance. And that is where I believe Donald Trump should come in. Trump should tell Putin, in no uncertain terms, that he must get out of Crimea, and cease hostilities in the rest of Ukraine. Further, Putin should be told to back off the growing pressure he has been exerting on other eastern European nations, like Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Poland. In the Middle East, Putin should be told that Russian targeting of anti-Assad forces, rather than of ISIS, is not only unwelcome, but will no longer be tolerated. And the buzzing of U.S. planes and ships by Russian planes, must cease immediately, or else.



Trump should inform Putin that he will be working closely with Congress first, and then with American allies, to dramatically tighten sanctions against Russia until all of the above are accomplished. The only thing Putin understands, and yields to, is power. And the U.S. has a lot more of it than Putin does - we just haven't been using it.



Anyway, that's what I would do. Unless of course the crazy libs are right, and Trump and Putin have been in cahoots all along. In that case, we're in big trouble.

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Exhibit C

Other Larrabee Complaints Filed

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Pam Bondi Hit With Ethics Complaints as Calls for Investigation Into Trump Donation Grow

Pam Bondi Hit With Ethics Complaints as Calls for Investigation Into Trump Donation Grow

KYLE MUNZENRIEDER | JUNE 9, 2016 | 10:33AM

215 Attorney General Pam Bondi's political headache is growing
20 worse. Calls for an independent investigation into a \$25,000
1 donation made by Donald Trump to Bondi's PAC continue to mount, and the AG has now been hit with

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Florida Elections Commission, and Florida Bar.

Earlier this week, a political consultant who worked on Bondi's 2014 reelection campaign disclosed that Bondi had personally solicited the donation from Trump. Days after receiving the \$25,000 check, her office announced it would not pursue an investigation based on complaints filed by Floridians claiming they were ripped off by Trump University and the affiliated Trump Institute.

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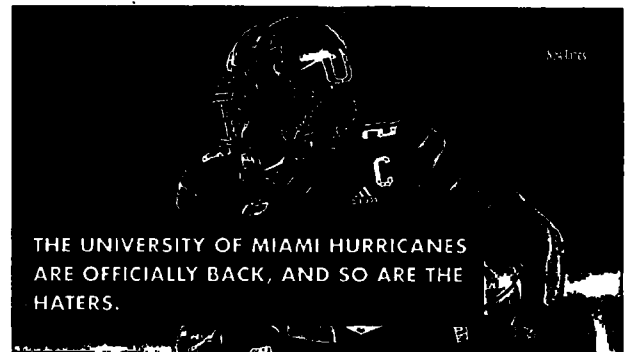
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The timing looks particularly suspicious, and the appearance isn't helped by the fact that Trump regularly claims on the campaign trail that politicians regularly do

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when I want something, I get it,

Trump said at a campaign rally in Iowa this past January. "When I call, they kiss my ass. It's true."

J. Whitfield Larrabee, a Boston lawyer, is behind the three formal complaints against Bondi.

"Pamela Bondi's actions suggest a conflict of interest and create the appearance of impropriety," the lawyer wrote in one the complaints.

Larrabee tells the *Tampa Bay Times* that he's a political independent with no ties to Florida politics. It is up to Florida Commission on Ethics, Florida Elections Commission, and Florida Bar whether to investigate the complaints further.

The editorial boards of some of Florida's largest newspapers, including the *Orlando Sentinel*, the *Miami Herald*, and the *Tampa Bay Times*, have also called for an independent investigation into the situation.

"If Bondi truly did nothing wrong, she will welcome an independent investigation to clear her name," the *Orlando Sentinel* wrote.

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wasn't aware of
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Trump's
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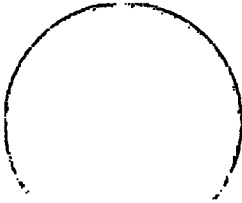
solicited the money. However,
on September 17, 2013, her office
told the *Orlando Sentinel* it would
consider joining the New York
Attorney General's office to look
into the complaints. Three days
later, Trump's check came in.

"I never, nor was my office,
investigating him," Bondi told
the *Miami Herald*. "Never. I would
never lie. I would never take
money. I've been obviously
devastated over this."

Bondi further claims that most of
the complaints were filed while her
predecessor, Bill McCollum, was in
office and that the Florida
complaints would be covered
under the New York investigation.
However, the New York
investigation centers on only
Trump University. In Florida,
Trump did business under the
affiliated but separate Trump
Institute.

Bondi was the most prominent

primary and continues to work closely with the Trump campaign as a surrogate.

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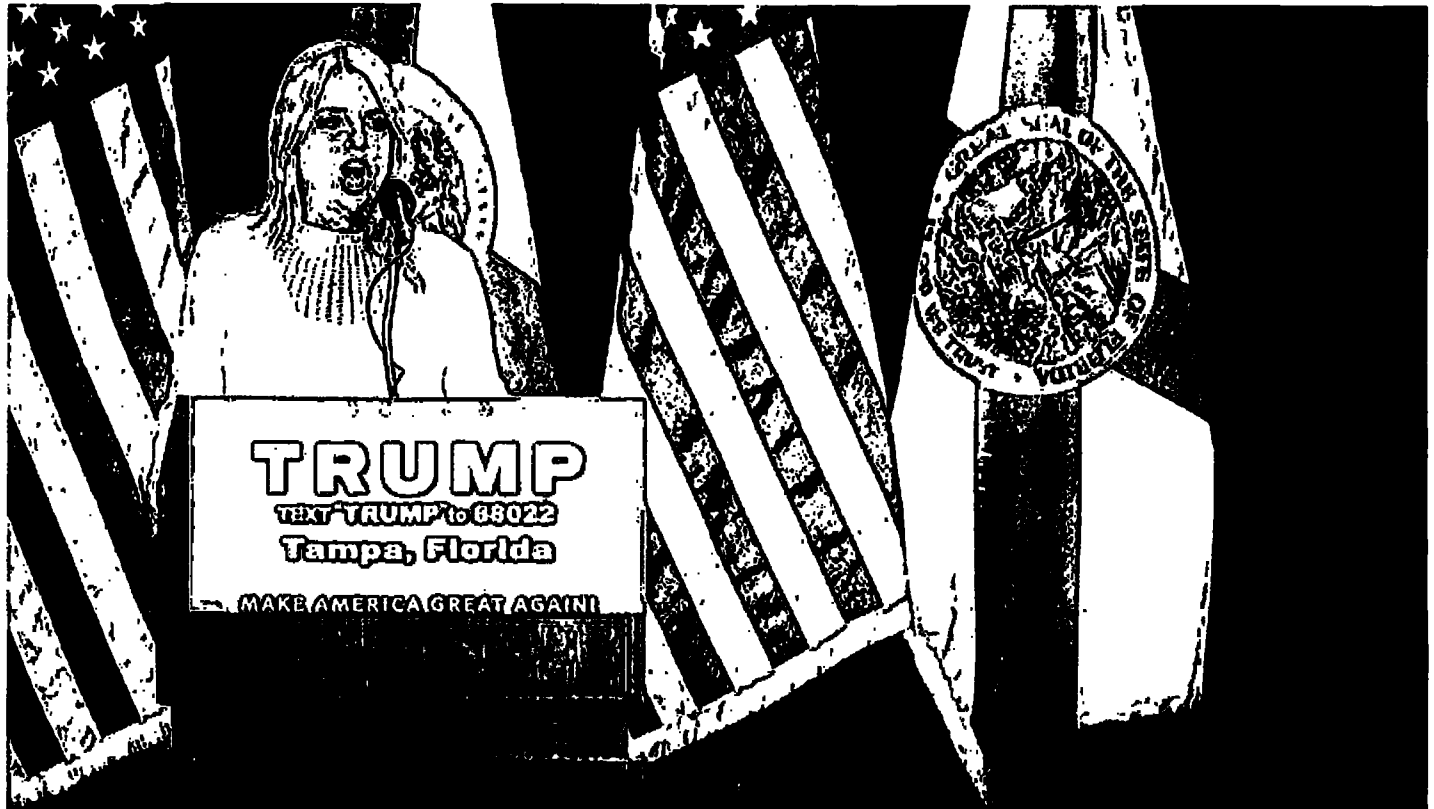


via J.Wakefield Twitter account

Miami Hurricanes Turnover Chain Inspires New J.

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GOP lobbyist latest to seek Trump-Bondi donation probe



Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi speaks at a Donald Trump campaign rally at the Tampa Convention Center in downtown Tampa, Fla., on Saturday, June 11, 2016. (Loren Elliott / AP)



By **Gray Rohrer**

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Conservative lobbyist to Justice Dept.: Look into Trump-Bondi donation

AUGUST 22, 2016, 12:46 PM

TALLAHASSEE – Nearly three years after Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi accepted a political donation from Donald Trump, the controversy just won't go away.

the scrutiny on the donation and attracted more inton.

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Last week, longtime conservative Washington lobbyist Jack Burkman asked U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch to investigate the \$25,000 donation to Bondi's And Justice for All political committee in September 2013. Shortly afterward, Bondi decided not to join a New York lawsuit against Trump University, a real estate seminar course with many customers who say they were bilked of thousands of dollars.

Bondi has denied any wrongdoing, but a political aide told the Associated Press she personally solicited the donation from Trump. Her office did not respond to a request for comment.

Burkman has a long list of clients and is accustomed to holding big-money fundraisers for candidates, but he said Trump's public bragging about "buying" politicians shocked him.

"There's never been anything like this in U.S. history -- a guy that openly brags about corruption," Burkman said in an interview.

The donation resurfaced as Trump surged in the polls early this year and began to win GOP primaries. In stump speeches that scolded politicians for being beholden to donors, he boasted about giving to them himself.

"When I call, they kiss my ass. It's true," Trump said during a January speech in Iowa.

Burkman's complaint comes on the heels of another filed by Boston lawyer Whitfield Larrabee with the Internal Revenue Service. Larrabee wants the IRS to probe the donation because it came from the Trump Foundation, a charity, and federal law prohibits political donations by non-profits.

The complaint is one of several lodged by Larrabee with a variety of agencies -- Florida state attorneys, the Florida Commission on Ethics, the Florida Elections Commission and the Florida Bar. The Florida Bar, which said it doesn't have jurisdiction, and the ethics commission, which said they would look into the matter to see if it's a legally valid complaint before launching a full inquiry, have been the only agencies to respond, Larrabee said.

Gov. Rick Scott has defended Bondi by saying the complaints are politically motivated. But Larrabee, who's not registered with either major party but plans to vote for Clinton, notes he's filed similar complaints against Democrats, including former Massachusetts Attorney General Martha Coakley over alleged public records law infringements.

"What I'm trying to do is prevent what I see as corrupt, unprincipled, bigoted and ruthless individuals from gaining or holding onto political power," Larrabee said.

Burkman's complaint is the first to come from a Republican, but he is part of the GOP establishment in Washington, which Trump has blasted in months past.

Burkman said his attitude toward Trump has lurched from dismissal to begrudging acceptance and, finally, adamant opposition. He supported Jeb Bush in the primaries and call Trump a "joke" last September.

When Trump was on the verge of claiming the nomination in May, Burkman offered to hold a fundraiser for him, but was rebuffed by Trump's campaign. Burkman says he met with Trump then and realized he was unqualified to be president.

"What I found out was that he was not just nuts but completely nuts," Burkman said.

A Trump campaign representative did not respond to a request for comment.

Neither Larrabee nor Burkman say they are frustrated with the lack of movement on their complaints.

"The point of it is to start the wheels of justice. The wheels of justice grind slowly," Burkman said.

grohrer@orlandosentinel.com or (850) 222-5564

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State attorney clears Donald Trump, Pam Bondi on campaign donation

Arek Sarkissian, arek.sarkissian@naplesnews.com; 850-559-7620 Published 7:48 p.m. ET April 6, 2017 | Updated 8:11 p.m. ET April 6, 2017



(Photo: Steve Canon/AP)

A state prosecutor cleared Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi and President Donald Trump of wrongdoing Thursday in connection with a \$25,000 contribution to a political action committee supporting her 2014 re-election campaign.

Massachusetts lawyer J. Whitfield Larrabee alleged Trump used the campaign contribution he made in 2013 to persuade Bondi not to investigate his online university.

But a prosecutor from the office of State Attorney Stephen B. Russell wrote in a memo that Larrabee's allegation had no evidence.

"There's nothing contained therein that Larrabee had any direct knowledge, physical evidence or sworn testimonial evidence that the offense of bribery occurred," wrote Amira D. Fox, Russell's chief assistant attorney. "The majority of the complaint consists of insinuation without any material evidence in support."

Larrabee said Russell's decision was flawed, partly because he was never contacted.

More: [Trump: No connection between campaign cash, Trump U. case \(/story/news/politics/onpolitics/2016/09/05/donald-trump-pam-bondi-florida-trump-university/89886962/\)](#)

"I condemn the decision of State Attorney Stephen Russell not to conduct an investigation of Attorney General Bondi for violating Florida's laws prohibiting public officials from accepting a bribe," Larrabee wrote in a statement. "The decision is factually and legally flawed. Before making the decision, no one from the State Attorney's office spoke with me about this matter."

Attempts to contact Bondi for comment through her office were unsuccessful.

More: [Pam Bondi doesn't regret taking Trump donations \(/story/news/politics/onpolitics/2016/09/20/pam-bondi-doesnt-regret-taking-trump-donations/90730170/\)](#)

Russell's decision comes about a week after a federal judge approved a \$25 million settlement between Trump and students who paid his university for real estate seminars.

Larrabee's complaint stems from Trump contributing \$25,000 to Bondi's And Justice for All political action committee.

Larrabee used nine news reports in his complaint to show Trump made the donation to stop Bondi from investigating Trump University. The school faced thousands of complaints from students who described its courses as worthless.

Bondi disputed the media reports during a September news conference outside her state Capitol office. She said her staff reviewed one consumer complaint and was aware of an investigation by the New York attorney general. But an investigation in Florida never was begun, she said.

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More: Judge approves \$25M Trump University lawsuits settlement (/story/news/2017/03/31/judge-oks-deal-25m-settlement-trump-university-lawsuits/99872174/)

Bondi had also said she asked Trump for the money and he drew the contribution from his charity foundation. Using a charity to make a political contribution is a federal offense, and the IRS handed Trump a fine and forced him to repay the foundation with his own money.

Bondi said she had tried to give back the money to Trump's foundation, but she was not allowed.

More: Why Trump's donation to Pam Bondi has come back to bite him (/story/news/politics/onpolitics/2016/09/07/why-trumps-donation-pam-bondi-has-come-back-bite-him/89970306/)

Larrabee criticized Russell's office for not responding to Bondi's acceptance of the charity money.

"There is no doubt that the solicitation and acceptance of a \$25,000 payment from the Trump Foundation by Attorney General Bondi, while her office was reviewing complaints against Trump University, corruptly violated Florida law," Larrabee wrote. "It is illegal under the laws of Florida and of the United States to solicit or accept money from a charity for a political campaign."

Larrabee filed his complaint late last year with the Hillsborough County state attorney's office where Bondi worked as a prosecutor. That conflict prompted Gov. Rick Scott to reassign the case in December to Russell's Fort Myers-based office.

Fox noted in her memo to Russell that Larrabee filed his complaint Aug. 1 — 13 days after Trump received the Republican nomination for president. He also filed eight identical complaints with federal and state authorities in New York and Florida in June, days after Scott announced he would not investigate Bondi or Trump.

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Bribery case against Bondi, Trump squashed

Posted: Apr 06, 2017 4:50 PM EDT
Updated: Apr 06, 2017 4:52 PM EDT

A criminal case against Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi alleging bribery with a campaign contribution from Donald Trump has been squashed.

While Bondi was investigating Trump University in September of 2013, she received a campaign donation for her re-election from the Trump Foundation in the amount of \$25,000. One day after receiving the donation, the attorney general dropped the investigation.

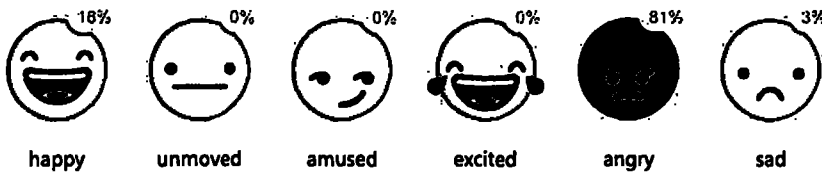
The \$25,000 donation was actually the second one given to the Bondi campaign. The first one was \$500 made in July of 2013.

The case was brought to Governor Rick Scott by Massachusetts lawyer J. Whitfield Larrabee. It was filed 13 days after Trump won the Republican Party nomination - almost three years after the contribution was made.

Documents from the attorney's office say Larrabee's complaint was insufficient to conduct a criminal investigation into the campaign contribution. It also says he had no direct knowledge, physical evidence, or sworn testimonial evidence that the bribery occurred.

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Not enough evidence found for Bondi, Trump bribery complaint - Florida Politics

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Not enough evidence found for Bondi, Trump bribery complaint



GARY FINEOUT

April 6, 2017, 7:56 pm

A bribery complaint against President **Donald Trump** and Attorney General **Pam Bondi** lacks enough evidence to move forward, a state

prosecutor told the Governor Thursday.

The complaint filed by a Massachusetts attorney stemmed from scrutiny last year over a \$25,000 campaign contribution Bondi received from Trump in 2013. Bondi asked for the donation near the same time that her office was being asked about a New York investigation of alleged fraud at Trump University.

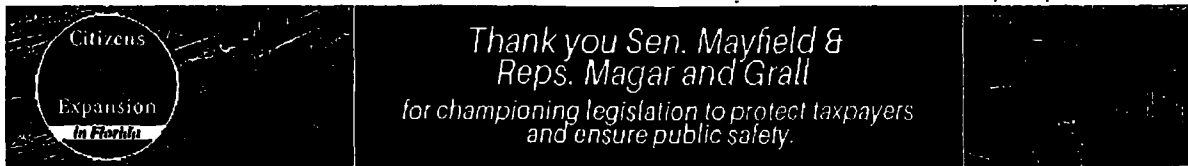


Gov. Rick Scott handed the case to a southwest Florida prosecutor after another prosecutor said he could not investigate the case because Bondi used to work him.

A prosecutor working in State Attorney Stephen Russell's office concluded that there is no reasonable suspicion that Trump or Bondi broke Florida's bribery law.

Amira Fox, the chief assistant state attorney, said in a memo about the case that the complaint against Bondi was "insufficient on its face to conduct a criminal investigation" and was based almost entirely on media coverage.

"The majority of the complaint consists of insinuation without any material evidence in support," Fox wrote.



Fox added that although a campaign contribution could be viewed as a type of bribe, there was no evidence that Bondi asked for the money in exchange for any official act.

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J. Whitfield Larrabee, who has filed numerous complaints against Bondi, questioned the scope of the investigation. He said there was no evidence in the memo that prosecutors spoke to any witnesses. Larrabee called Russell's decision to drop the case "a gutless move that was politically motivated."

Bondi, who endorsed Trump's bid for president right before the Florida Republican primary, has repeatedly denied any wrongdoing and defended her decision to accept the contribution. Recent frequent trips to Washington have stirred media speculation that she might wind up taking a job in the Trump administration.

The 2013 check to a committee supporting Bondi's re-election campaign from the Donald J. Trump Foundation violated a federal prohibition against charities giving money to political groups. But the issue flared back to life last summer amid media coverage of Trump's presidential campaign and news that his foundation paid a \$2,500 fine to the IRS over the donation. Whitfield filed his complaint last August.

Though both Trump University and the Florida-based Trump Institute had stopped offering classes by the time Bondi took office in 2011, more than 20 complaints had been filed by former students who claimed they were swindled.

A judge last week approved an agreement for the president to pay \$25 million to settle lawsuits over Trump University, ending nearly seven years of legal battles with customers who claimed they were misled by failed promises to teach success in real estate.

The Associated Press reported last June that Bondi personally asked Trump for help for her 2014 re-election. She has said she turned to him because he was on a list of "friends and family" she sought money from when she first ramped up fundraising efforts.

Though Bondi has not given a precise date for her call with Trump, documents show the political action committee she was asking donors to support was created in early August 2013. Trump signed a check on Sept. 9 and it was received by Bondi's political committee on Sept. 17 of that year.

But by that time, emails show that top officials in her office – including her chief of staff – were being asked by reporters in Florida about a lawsuit against Trump University by the New York attorney general.

Bondi's office said at the time that it was "reviewing" the lawsuit, but it never took any other action. Bondi said her office receives tens of thousands of such complaints each year. Bondi said that she was

unaware that her office had been asked about the New York lawsuit until a Florida columnist highlighted the case and the October 2013 donation from Trump.

She said she tried to return the \$25,000 check to Trump this year when she found out that the money came from his foundation and not from his personal funds. But the Trump Foundation returned the money and told Bondi's accountant that Trump himself had reimbursed the money.

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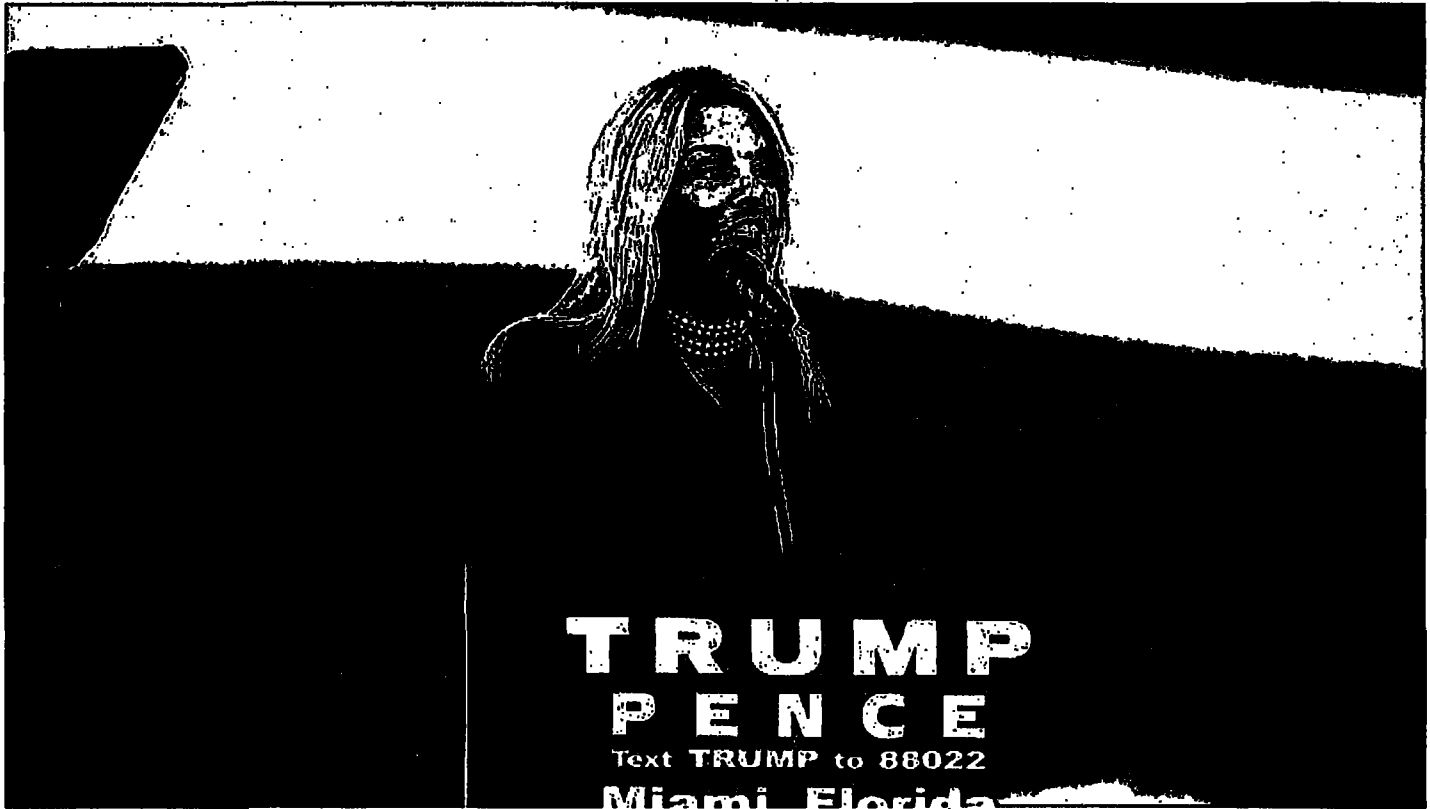


Ray Roberts

April 7, 2017 at 12:55 pm

Investigation? What investigation? The offices of this State have deteriorated badly under Scott and Bondi and the Republican legislature. As always, this group takes office and then fails at government.

Ethics commission: No probable cause in Bondi-Trump bribery complaint



Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi (Sentinel file)



By **Gray Rohrer**
Tallahassee Bureau

APRIL 21, 2017, 2:25 PM

TALLAHASSEE — A state ethics panel on Friday decided not to look further into a complaint against Attorney General Pam Bondi over her solicitation of a campaign donation from President Donald Trump in 2013.

The hearing conducted by the Florida Commission on Ethics was closed to the public, but Tallahassee lawyer Mark Herron represented Whitfield Larrabee, the Boston attorney who filed the complaint, at the hearing and said the panel found no probable cause to investigate the matter further.

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August 2013. Trump's charity, the Trump
see the following month.

Her office at the time was considering what to do about complaints lodged about Trump University, a real estate investment seminar that many customers say was worthless and swindled them out of thousands of dollars.

"[Commission chairman Matthew Carlucci] said there was no evidence of a quid pro quo, and no evidence that she even knew of the complaints to her office," Herron said.

Bondi's office eventually decided not to investigate the complaints or join a New York lawsuit against Trump University. Trump also hosted a fundraiser for Bondi later in the campaign.

After he won the presidency last fall, Trump agreed to a \$25 million settlement in the New York case.

During the campaign, Trump aides admitted that the donation from his charity — which violated a federal ban on charities giving political donations — was a mistake.

Trump paid a \$2,500 fine to the IRS.

Bondi has consistently maintained that she did nothing wrong. Her office could not immediately be reached for comment.

A state prosecutor looking into another complaint from Larrabee earlier this month determined there wasn't any evidence of wrongdoing by Bondi or Trump.

grohrer@orlandosentinel.com or (850) 222-5564

'No reasonable suspicion' for Trump-Bondi bribery complaint, prosecutor says »

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This article is related to: Donald Trump, Pam Bondi

Legal Schnauzer

The memory of a beloved pet inspires one couple's fight against injustice.

Wednesday, August 24, 2016

IRS should investigate and prosecute Donald Trump for tax evasion and political corruption, according to complaint about donations to Florida and Texas AGs

The IRS should investigate Donald Trump and his organization, referring the matter to the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) for criminal prosecution on tax-evasion charges, according to a complaint filed with the U.S. Department of Treasury.



Pam Bondi and Donald Trump
(From victorygroup.com)

Boston attorney J. Whitfield Larrabee filed the complaint on August 3, claiming that probable cause exists to

establish that Trump failed to pay \$25,000 for the 2013 tax year and failed to pay interest, taxes and penalties on at least \$25,000 of unreported income. The alleged violations are connected to a campaign donation Trump made to Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi. (See the complaint and related documents at the end of this post.)

The complaint also alleges that Trump failed to report income and pay taxes related to a \$35,000 donation to Texas Attorney General Gregory Abbott's 2013 campaign for governor.

In both instances, the states were thinking about joining, or initiating, investigations or litigation against Trump University. After the donations arrived, both AGs withdrew from any actions that would cast scrutiny on Trump University.

Larrabee's complaint alleges two counts of political corruption and one count of organized crime against Trump and the Trump Organization.

In a separate complaint, Larrabee alleges tax evasion against former Trump campaign manager Paul J. Manafort and related organizations regarding \$12.7 million in cash payments Manafort received from the Ukraine Party of Regions between 2007 and 2012.

Taken together, Larrabee's documents portray a Republican presidential candidate who is at the center of a financial mess that could have criminal implications.

What about details regarding the donation to Florida AG Pam Bondi? From the complaint:

In summer of 2013, at a time when her office was reviewing complaints against Trump University and related entities, Florida Attorney General Pamela Bondi personally solicited a campaign contribution from Trump.

Weeks after Bondi solicited the contribution, on September 17, 2013, a political group backing Bondi's re-election, called And Justice for All, reported receiving a \$25,000 contribution from The Trump Foundation. In its 2013 990-PF Information Return, the Trump Foundation reported making a contribution to And Justice For All, although it listed the incorrect address for recipient of the \$25,000 political contribution. The And Justice for All organization was established and maintained by Bondi. In a Statement of Solicitation Filed by Bondi on August 6, 2013 with the Florida Division of Elections, as required by

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Roger Shuler: Have bachelor's degree in journalism (U of Missouri, 1978) Worked 11 years for daily newspaper. Worked 19 years as university editor. Married, no kids.

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Florida Statute, 108.0701, Bondi stated that she "established and "maintained" the And Justice for All political organization.

What are the implications of the transaction? Larrabee spells it out in stark legal details:

The payment made to Bondi's political committee was a bribe given in exchange for Bondi's agreement not to join in or initiate litigation against Trump, Trump University, and related entities.

In violation of his fiduciary duty as the president and manager of the Donald J. Trump Foundation, Trump arranged for Donald J. Trump Foundation to make the payment to Bondi's political group.

It is illegal under the laws of the United States, Florida and New York for charities to make political contributions. 26 U.S.C. § 501(c)(3) provides that charitable foundations may not "participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for public office."

If the IRS takes a close look, it could spell trouble for Trump:

By misappropriating the assets of the Donald J. Trump Foundation, and converting the assets of the foundation for his own personal use so as to promote his political agenda, Trump personally benefited from the campaign contribution to And Justice for All. Because Trump converted and stole money from the Donald J. Trump Foundation, for his own use and benefit, he had a duty to report the \$25,000 as income on his 2013 tax return.

There is probable cause to conclude that Trump did not report the \$25,000 payment as income and that he did not pay taxes on this income because the payment itself was an illegal one, and it is unlikely that Trump voluntarily disclosed his illegal acts to the United States government.

The allegations regarding the Abbott donation in Texas feature a similar refrain:

In 2010, Richard Berlin, an Assistant Attorney General with the Texas Consumer Protection Division requested permission to file a lawsuit against Trump University, Trump and his business partners seeking more than \$5.4 million in penalties and restitution related to fraud and deceptive business practices. The suit was dropped by the office of Texas Attorney General Gregory Abbott. Former Texas Deputy Chief of Consumer Protection John Owens said the case was strong and had been dropped for political reasons. In 2013, Trump contributed \$35,000 to Attorney General Abbott in his campaign to be Governor of Texas. Gregory Abbott is presently the Governor of Texas. Trump has engaged in a pattern of corrupt influence peddling.

To his credit, Trump has been up front about the way he conducts business and political affairs. Unfortunately, it appears his methods conflict with the law. Writes Larrabee:

Trump has publicly declared that he gives political contributions to elected officials in exchange for political favors. On July 16, 2016, while campaigning in Laconia, New Hampshire, Trump spoke about Jeb Bush's fundraising. He stated: "He raises 100 million, so what does 100 million mean? 100 million means he's doing favors for so many people, it means lobbyists, it means special interests, it means donors. . . . Who knows it better than me? I give to everybody. They do whatever I want. It's true." On January 9, 2016, at a campaign rally in Clear Lake Iowa, which was broadcast on C-SPAN, Trump boasted, "You know, it's interesting. I was looking at the ones I'm running against. I've contributed to most of them -- can you believe it? I've contributed to most of them. And one of them said, No, I don't think you've contributed to me. They found out I did. I contribute to everybody. I've given to Democrats. I've given to Hillary. I've given to everybody, because that was my job. I've got to give to them. because when I want something I get it. When I call, they kiss my ass. It's true. They kiss my ass. It's true."

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Don Siegelman: Conservatives now pushing for a lot...

Barack v. Vopper is the SCOTUS case that lets j...

It's almost comical now to read Trump's words. But they aren't so funny when taken in context with federal law, as Larrabee points out:

There is probable cause to conclude that, in exchange for Trump's promise of financial support, Abbott agreed not to pursue litigation against Trump University, Trump and Trump's business partners, to the benefit of Trump and The Trump Organization.

By avoiding litigation in exchange for the payment of a bribe, Trump and The Trump Organization not only received a \$5.4 million dollar benefit in that they avoided paying penalties and restitution, but they also received a valuable benefit in that they avoided the attorney's fees and litigation costs that they would have incurred if the Attorney General's Office had moved forward with the recommended litigation.

There is probable cause to conclude that Trump and The Trump Organization did not report the \$5.4 million benefit as income and that they did not pay taxes on this income because the payment itself was an illegal one and it is unlikely that Trump or The Trump Organization voluntarily disclosed these illegal acts to the United States government.

There is probable cause to obtain indictments against Trump and The Trump Organization for tax evasion in the 2010 to 2013 time period related to the failure to report and pay taxes on more than \$5.4 million in income.

Where is this headed? That is not clear. But this is clear: Attorney J. Whitfield Larrabee isn't messing around.

[Complaint re: Trump and IRS](#) by [Roger Shuler](#) on Scribd

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[IRS Information Referral Form re: Donald Trump](#) by [Roger Shuler](#) on Scribd

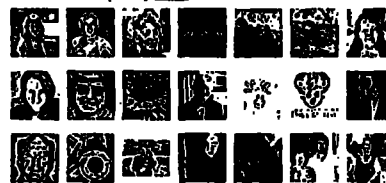
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23 people ask the Justice Department to launch a criminal inquiry into its chief, Jeff Sessions

By Kristine Phillips March 27

Nearly two dozen people from five states are accusing Attorney General Jeff Sessions of lying to the Senate Judiciary Committee about his communications with the Russian government and subsequently trying to cover up that lie, according to a complaint sent to the Department of Justice.

The complaint, which names 23 residents, states that Sessions gave false and misleading testimony during his confirmation hearing in January when he told the Senate committee that he "did not have communications with the Russians." It further accuses the attorney general of covering up the alleged perjury by directing a spokeswoman to make a public statement saying he did not mislead the committee.

"We feel there is probable cause to charge him with a crime," J. Whitfield Larrabee, a Massachusetts lawyer who represents the 23 residents, told The Washington Post. "We want indictments in the case. We want Attorney General Sessions to be treated just the same as

anyone else. We don't think that just because he's the attorney general,
that there should be a higher standard to bring charges against him."

Larrabee said the complaint was sent Monday to three Justice Department divisions that investigate alleged crimes and misconduct by agency employees and public officials.

How the agency will handle a complaint against its leader is unclear. Larrabee said the department should appoint a special prosecutor to handle the investigation and prosecution.

A spokesman for one of the divisions, the Office of Inspector General, declined to comment on the allegations. Other Justice Department spokespeople haven't responded to a request for comment.

The group of complainants, which includes three doctors and a pastor, are from California, Maine, Massachusetts, Oregon and Vermont.

Earlier this month, The Post revealed that Sessions met with Russia's ambassador to the United States twice last year and did not disclose those communications when asked during his confirmation hearing. The report intensified calls for a congressional investigation into Russia's involvement in the presidential election and also prompted ethics complaints calling for disciplinary actions against Sessions, who has been an attorney for more than four decades.

After The Post's March 1 story, Sessions acknowledged that he briefly spoke with Russian Ambassador Sergey Kislyak at the Republican National Convention in Cleveland in July and again at his Senate office in September, but denied discussing President Trump's campaign. The former Republican senator from Alabama, who became Trump's nominee for attorney general in November, has also recused himself from Justice Department investigations related to the election, saying he was following the advice of the agency's ethics officials.

The allegations in the complaint were partially over Sessions's answer to a question by Sen. Al Franken (D-Minn.) during his Jan. 10 confirmation hearing. Franken asked Sessions what he will do if "anyone affiliated with the Trump campaign" had communications with the Russian government.

"I'm not aware of any of those activities. I have been called a surrogate at a time or two in that campaign and I did not have communications with the Russians," Sessions responded.

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Sessions submitted written statements a week later in response to questions by Sen. Patrick J. Leahy (D-Vt.). Leahy asked: "Several of the president-elect's nominees or senior advisers have Russian ties. Have you been in contact with anyone connected to any part of the Russian government about the 2016 election, either before or after Election Day?"

His response: "No."

The complaint further accuses Sessions of making additional false statements to cover up the "perjurious testimony." It cited a March 6 letter he wrote to the Senate Judiciary Committee in which he defended his earlier testimony, as well as a statement posted on social media saying Sessions never discussed the presidential campaign with any Russian officials.

In the March 6 letter, Sessions said he "correctly" and "honestly" answered questions about a "continuing exchange of information" between Trump surrogates and intermediaries of the Russian government.

"I did not mention communications I had had with the Russian ambassador over the years because the question did not ask about them," he wrote.

Amid deep partisan rancor, Senate confirms Sessions for attorney
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Jeff Sessions's denials of contact with Russians are falling apart quickly

Read the letter Coretta Scott King wrote opposing Sessions's 1986
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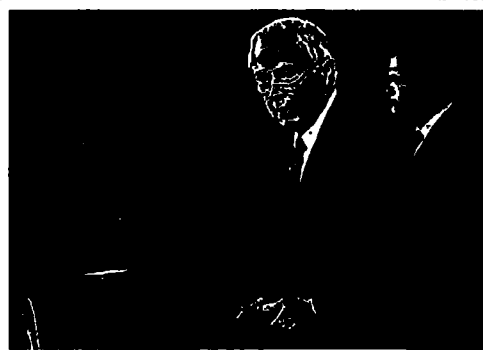
Legal Schnauzer

The memory of a beloved pet inspires one couple's fight against injustice.

Monday, March 13, 2017

Boston attorney J. Whitfield Larrabee files complaint with Alabama State Bar against Jeff Sessions, pointing to possible criminal acts that go way beyond perjury

We wrote last Tuesday about the complications that might arise if someone filed a bar complaint against Trump Attorney General Jeff Sessions, in light of his false statements to Congress about meetings with a Russian ambassador during the 2016 campaign. It didn't take long for someone to file that complaint.



Jeff Sessions

Boston attorney J. Whitfield Larrabee filed a complaint against Sessions with the Alabama State Bar last Thursday (March 9), just two days after our report, based on statements from Western Michigan University law professor Victoria Vuletic. How's that for swift action? (The Larrabee complaint and attachments are embedded at the end of this post.)

On the same day, the ACLU also filed a bar complaint against Sessions. If the Trump AG thinks he isn't in hot water, perhaps he should check with domestic diva Martha Stewart. (More on that subject in a moment.)

Larrabee minces no words in his statements about Sessions' actions:

The complaint accuses Sessions of violating the Alabama Rules of Professional Conduct by committing perjury and other crimes when he testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee on January 10, 2017. The complaint alleges that Sessions committed crimes when he falsely testified that he had no communications with the Russians during the election campaign and when he subsequently engaged in a cover up. In my opinion, Sessions' continuing service as Attorney General amounts to a serious conflict of interest, violates the integrity of the United States Department of Justice and is a form of corruption.

I've filed two or three complaints against various lawyers with the Alabama State Bar, and each time, I received nothing but a letter stating no investigation would even be conducted. I concluded the state bar is a corrupt right-wing outfit (which it is) that serves up protection, more than discipline, for Alabama lawyers – at least those who are connected to major firms or the state's GOP noise machine. I decided to forego bar complaints and make more productive use of my time.

It might not be so easy for the bar to brush off Larrabee's complaint against Jeff Sessions. To be sure, Sessions is precisely the kind of lawyer the Alabama State Bar likes to protect. He has the right-wing bona fides, and he likely is the organization's best known member. But Larrabee is a lawyer himself, he clearly is not a lightweight, and Sessions' violations of the bar code came in public view, with a national and international audience. It's going to be hard to ignore them.

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About Me



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Roger Shuler: Have bachelor's degree in journalism (U of Missouri, 1978) Worked 11 years for daily newspaper. Worked 19 years as university editor. Married, no kids.

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If the Alabama State Bar hasn't grown a spine, it might need to grow one in a hurry. Long-time general Counsel Anthony McLain died in January. Experience taught me that McLain was little more than an empty suit and an obstructionist. In fact, he was at the controls when Alabama's legal community spiraled into a mass of corruption and malfeasance, and there is little evidence to suggest McLain did anything about it. If Tony McLain were still alive, there is little doubt he would do his best to provide cover for Jeff Sessions.

What happens now that McLain is gone? According to the bar's Web site, it appears no one has been appointed to replace McLain, even on an interim basis. The bar has three assistant general counsels -- Jeremy McIntire, Mark Moody, and Tripp Vickers -- and they all probably are right-wingers without an ounce of integrity among them. The Sessions story could shine a glaring spotlight on the incompetence and corruption that has plagued the Alabama State Bar for years.



J. Whitfield Larrabee

As for Larrabee, he has demonstrated a willingness to step on powerful toes when they appear to have danced into unethical and perhaps criminal territory. He filed multiple complaints against candidate Donald Trump and Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi over apparent bribery. (See [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).) From Larrabee's complaint against Sessions:

Beginning on or about January 10, 2017, Sessions engaged in unethical and criminal conduct in violation of the Alabama Rules of Professional Conduct.

Sessions violated Rule 8.4(b) by committing a criminal act or criminal acts that reflect "adversely on the lawyer's honesty, trustworthiness or fitness as a lawyer in other respects."

Sessions violated Rule 8.4(c) by engaging "in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation."

Sessions violated Rule 8.4(d) of the Alabama Rules of Professional Conduct by engaging "in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice."

Sessions violated other provisions of the Alabama Rules of Professional Conduct by giving false testimony to a legislative body, by failing to take reasonable and appropriate measures to remedy this misconduct, by affirmatively acting to cover up and conceal his misconduct, and by failing to avoid conflicts of interest in his activities as a lawyer and public official.

Larrabee provides background on events leading to Sessions' false statements, in response to questions from U.S. Sen. Al Franken (D-MN):

On January 6, 2017, the United States government released a report expressing the conclusion of the FBI, CIA and NSA that Russia engaged in a campaign of cyberattacks, propaganda, and mis-information in order to aid Trump to win the presidential election. This report gained a great deal of coverage in the news media such that it very likely came to the attention of Sessions.

Prior to January 10, 2017, the FBI and US government intelligence agencies concluded that Russian operatives were behind the hacking of the computers of Democratic National Committee and of the email account of John Podesta, chairman of Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign.

On January 10, 2017, Sessions gave sworn testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee in a hearing concerning his confirmation as Attorney General.

In the hearing, Sessions told Franken, "I did not have communications with the Russians," even though Franken never asked him if he had. On March 1, *The Washington Post* reported that Sessions had met at least twice with Russian ambassador Sergey Kislyak during the 2016 campaign:

Larrabee outlines the elements of perjury under U.S. law and then states:

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Some of the nation's top legal minds are off target...

Trump AG Jeff Sessions once was known mainly for b...

Evidence establishes that Sessions is guilty of perjury in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1621.

After giving false, deceitful, dishonest, fraudulent and misleading testimony to the Senate Judiciary Committee, Sessions participated in a cover-up of his criminal, dishonest and unethical conduct.

On March 1, 2017, the *Washington Post* reported that Sessions met with Kislyak twice in 2016 and that he failed to disclose the meetings when asked by Franken.

On March 1, 2017, Sessions' spokeswoman, Sarah Isgur Flores ("Flores") responded to the *Washington Post* report. Referring to Sessions' testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee, Flores stated: "there was absolutely nothing misleading about his answer." Flores is the Director of Public Affairs at the Department of Justice and is under Sessions supervision.

On March 1, 2017, in response to the *Washington Post* report, Sessions issued a statement through Flores: "I have never met with any Russian officials to discuss issues of the campaign. I have no idea what this allegation is about. It is false."

Sessions' denials of the *Washington Post* report, and his assertion that the report was false, was itself false, misleading and dishonest. The *Washington Post* never reported that Sessions and Kislyak discussed issues of the campaign. Sessions' statement about the *Washington Post* report included at least one lie.

Once the false statements before Congress became public knowledge, Sessions made the situation worse, Larrabee states:

Because Sessions' testimony denying that he had communications with the Russians was false and misleading, it was dishonest for him to allow Flores to speak on his behalf and to assert that "there was absolutely nothing misleading about his answer."

On March 6, 2017, Sessions submitted a letter to the Senate Judiciary Committee supplementing his testimony on January 10, 2017. (Letter from Sessions to Charles E. Grassley, Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, attached hereto as Exhibit "A.")

Sessions claimed in the letter that his response to Franken, denying any communications with the Russians during the campaign, "was correct." Rather than acknowledge the falsity of his prior testimony, Sessions willfully and deliberately insisted that his prior false testimony was correct. In doing so, Sessions made an additional material false statement to the Senate Judiciary Committee and attempted to conceal and cover up his prior false testimony and perjury.

This represents a violation of 18 U.S.C. 1001. Larrabee asserts. It's not unusual for individuals to go to prison for violating Sec. 1001, "Lying to Government Agents." The statute ensnared Martha Stewart, and Larrabee makes it clear that Sessions' issues go way beyond perjury. In fact, his issues go to the heart of possible criminality in the Trump administration:

The FBI and the United States Department of Justice ("DOJ") are currently investigating links between associates of Trump, the Trump campaign and the Russian Government.

The individuals associated with the Trump campaign who were in contact with Russian officials include: Trump's former National Security Advisor Michael Flynn, Trump's advisor and son-in-law Jared Kushner, Trump's former campaign manager Paul Manafort, Trump's foreign policy advisor Carter Page, Director of National Security for the Trump campaign J.D. Gordon and Sessions. None of these individuals were properly registered as agents of the Russian government under the Foreign Agents Registration Act, 22 U.S.C. § 611, et. seq. Trump and his representatives repeatedly and falsely denied that these contacts with Russian officials occurred. . . .

Jake Proctor, son of U.S. Judge David Proctor, has...

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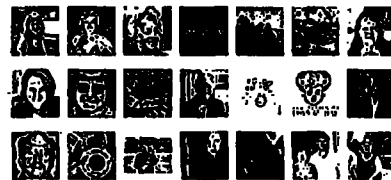
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All of this points to violations of United States Campaign Finance Act, 52 U.S.C. § 30121. Again, the Larrabee complaint goes way beyond Sessions and way beyond perjury:

Collusion with Russia by individuals associated with a political campaign, who are not registered as foreign agents of Russia, in order to aid Russia in influencing the election of the President of the United States, would be a criminal violation of the Foreign Agents Registration Act.

Kislyak and Sessions were likely in contact because of Sessions' position and relationship with Trump and his campaign. Sessions was not part of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Except for his participation in the Trump campaign, there were few other reasons for the Russian ambassador to want to communicate with Sessions in the midst of an election. The primary reason Kislyak communicated with Sessions was his role in the Trump campaign, not his role as a Senator.

Sessions' contacts with the Russian ambassador during the election campaign and his false and misleading statements denying these contacts are specific facts that give rise to a reasonable suspicion that Sessions was involved in criminal activity related to Russian interference with the 2016 election.

Let those words sink in for a moment: "Sessions was involved in criminal activity related to Russian interference with the 2016 election." This suggests a scandal that might dwarf Watergate in scope and seriousness.

And one of Alabama's senior political figures appears to be at the heart of it.

LAW OFFICES OF
J. WHITFIELD LARRABEE
TRIAL AND APPELLATE LAWYERS
251 HARVARD STREET, SUITE 9
BROOKLINE, MASSACHUSETTS 02446

TELEPHONE: (617) 366-3670
FACSIMILE: (617) 507-6433

March 9, 2017

VIA FAX, EMAIL AND FIRST CLASS MAIL

Alabama State Bar
Disciplinary Commission
P.O. Box 671
Montgomery, AL 36101-0671

In Re: Jefferson B. Sessions, III

Dear Sir or Madam:

Enclosed for filing please find a disciplinary complaint and complaint form concerning professional misconduct by attorney Jefferson B. Sessions, III, a member of the Alabama State Bar.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matters.

Very truly yours,

Page 1 / 37

J. Whitfield Larrabee

Posted by legalschnauzer at 1:24:00 PM



Labels: Al Franken, Alabama State Bar, Anthony McLain, Donald Trump, J. Whitfield Larrabee, Jeff Sessions, Jeremy McIntire, Mark Moody, Martha Stewart, Pam Bondi, Tripp Vickers

'Blog Active
Blue Gal
Brad Blog
Buck Naked Politics
Bus Plunge
BuzzFlash
Consumer Law & Policy Blog
Cool Aqua
Corporate Constraint
Cottonmouth Blog
Crooks and Liars
Democratic Underground
Demokat
Diane Dimond
Empire Burlesque
ePluribus Media
Eschaton
Expose Corrupt Courts
Facing South
Firedoglake
Hissyspitting!
Humblawg
Impolitical
Industry Whistleblower
Innergnat
Jesus General
Justice Integrity Project
Kill All the Lawyers
Kung Fu Monkey
Labor South
Lawrence Velvel
Leftists in the South
Lefty Blogs
Legal Speaks
Liberal Grouch
Lindsay Beyerstein
Living Lies
Max Blumenthal
Mike B and Gun Control
Nation of Change
Neal Rauhauser

REAL-TIME NEWS FROM BIRMINGHAM

Lawyer files Alabama Bar Association complaint against Jeff Sessions

Updated Mar 10, 2017;
Posted Mar 9, 2017

Jeff Sessions

Attorney
General Jeff
Sessions
speaks at
the Justice
Department
in
Washington,
Thursday,
March 2,
2017. (AP
Photo/Susan
Walsh)
(*Susan
Walsh*)

1.1k

3.2k
shares

By **Howard Koplowitz**, hkoplowitz@al.com

A Boston-area attorney filed a complaint Thursday with the Alabama Bar Association against U.S. Attorney Jeff Sessions, alleging the former Alabama senator violated the Bar's code of conduct by engaging in "unethical and criminal conduct" during his confirmation hearing.

J. Whitfield Larrabee, the lawyer who filed the complaint, is claiming that Sessions violated several provisions of the Bar's rules of professional conduct when he told the Senate Judiciary Committee in January that he "had no contact with the Russians." Larrabee is asking the association to investigate his claims because Sessions is an attorney licensed in Alabama.

A spokeswoman for the Bar association said she could not confirm that the organization received the complaint because filings are confidential. Larrabee, who filed complaints with federal prosecutors in New York and Florida alleging bribery, fraud and conspiracy against then-presidential candidate Donald Trump and Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi, provided AL.com with his complaint against Sessions.

Penalties for being found in violation of the code of conduct range from probation to disbarment. Larrabee said he hoped his complaint would lead to Sessions' disbarment, although it's unclear whether having his law license revoked would disqualify him from being attorney general.

10044468001

"My concern is I'm an attorney, I'm a citizen, and I'm concerned it's pretty clear he hasn't testified truthfully to the United States Senate," Larrabee, who practices civil rights and trial law, said in a phone interview. "I'd like him to be subject to appropriate discipline."

Sessions recused himself last week from any investigations involving communication between the Donald Trump campaign and the Russians after it was revealed that he met twice with Russian ambassador to the United States Sergey Kislyak during the campaign. The attorney general denied any impropriety, maintaining he met with Kislyak in his capacity as a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee. Sessions was the first sitting senator to endorse Trump and headed the then-candidate's national security advisory committee.

In his complaint, Larrabee claimed Sessions violated "adversely on the lawyer's honesty, trustworthiness or fitness as a lawyer in other respects," engaged "in conduct

involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation" and "conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice."

"Sessions violated other provisions of the Alabama Rules of Professional Conduct by giving false testimony to a legislative body, by failing to take reasonable and appropriate measures to remedy this misconduct, by affirmatively acting to cover up and conceal his misconduct, and by failing to avoid conflicts of interest in his activities as a lawyer and public official," the complaint states.

Larrabee also claimed that Sessions engaged "in a cover-up of his criminal, dishonest and unethical conduct" because he said through a spokeswoman "there was absolutely nothing misleading about his answer" to the Judiciary Committee about his contact with Russian officials.

"Because Sessions' testimony denying that he had communications with the Russians was false and misleading, it was dishonest for him to allow [spokeswoman Sarah Isgur] Flores to speak on his behalf and to assert that 'there was absolutely nothing misleading about his answer,'" Larrabee went on to say.

When reached for comment, Flores pointed to the letter Sessions' wrote earlier this week to the Judiciary Committee, where he said his answer was "correct" because it was in the context of communications between the Trump campaign and associates of the Russian government.

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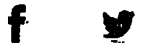
Complaint Filed Seeking To Revoke Manafort's Law License In Connecticut

According to documents released by a Ukrainian lawmaker, Paul Manafort tried to hide payments received from Ukraine's ousted former president through an offshore shell company.



By **Christopher Keating**

SHARE THIS



Attorney Files Complaint Vs. Paul Manafort

APRIL 26, 2017, 4:49 PM | HARTFORD

An attorney has filed a complaint against Donald Trump's former presidential campaign chairman, Paul J. Manafort, seeking to revoke Manafort's law license in Connecticut due to his failure to register as a foreign agent and his ties to Ukraine.

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See asks the Connecticut Statewide Grievance
ing dishonesty, fraud, deceit and

misrepresentation" as a lobbyist and an unregistered foreign agent.

Manafort, a New Britain native, was mentioned 28 times during a public hearing of the House Intelligence Committee last month regarding Russia's interference in the 2016 presidential campaign between Trump and Democrat Hillary Rodham Clinton. The FBI has publicly acknowledged that investigators are researching potential collusion between Trump's campaign and Russian operatives.

Manafort, 67, had previously worked as an adviser to former Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich, who has had close ties to Russian President Vladimir Putin.

"There is probable cause to conclude that the attorney stated or implied an ability to improperly influence a government agency or official or to achieve results by means that violate the Rules of Professional Conduct or other laws," Larrabee wrote in the complaint.

Manafort's spokesman, Jason Maloni, declined to comment on the complaint Wednesday.

An attorney since 1988, Larrabee described himself in the written complaint as a "concerned citizen" and said he had not had any personal or professional dealings with Manafort. He added that his knowledge of Manafort is based solely on public news reports.

A personal injury lawyer in Massachusetts who has handled medical malpractice, wrongful death and sexual harassment cases, Larrabee has also filed complaints against Trump regarding his federal taxes and other issues. He has also filed complaints against Attorney General Jeff Sessions and Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi that were related to Trump. The Florida Commission on Ethics dismissed the complaint regarding Bondi, saying they did not find probable cause against her.

In a telephone interview, Larrabee said he was aware of published reports that Manafort is considering whether he would retroactively register as a foreign agent for his previous work.

"If he's registering after the fact, that's an admission that he should have registered before the fact," Larrabee said.

The statewide grievance committee does not confirm the receipt of complaints because the investigations are confidential until probable cause is found against an attorney. At that point, a public hearing is held to determine whether the lawyer should be disciplined.

Larrabee's complaint included multiple articles from The New York Times, the Associated Press and other outlets that outlined Manafort's purchases of properties in transactions without mortgages in New York City and beyond. Many of the purchases were made through limited liability companies controlled by Manafort.

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This article is related to: Europe, Russia, Donald Trump, Pam Bondi, Viktor Yanukovich



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CRAZY CASES

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SPORTS LAW

Tennessee Murder Trial
Highlights Laws For
Killing Embryos, Fetuses

Woman Who Worked
with Franken on Rape
Victim Legislation Wants
New Sponsor for Bill

Man Commits Suicide
After Being Charged
with Abusing Students

15 Convictions Linked to
Corrupt Chicago Cop are
Thrown Out

Man Commits Suicide
After Being Charged
with Abusing Students

Bar Complaint Accuses Reince Priebus of Corruptly Attempting to Influence FBI Investigation

by [Chris White](#) | 4:09 pm, February 27th, 2017



UNINTERRUPTED LIVE FEEDS

VIEW ALL

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[Stephen Duxbury Trial](#)

[Adam Matos Trial](#)



An ethics attorney has filed a complaint against White House Chief of Staff **Reince Priebus**, accusing him of a "corrupt attempt to influence

Sponsored Content



7 Essential Questions For Finding a Trusted Home Contractor

By Duke Energy

The complaint was filed by J. Whitfield Larrabee, a Massachusetts attorney, who is no stranger to filing ethics complaints against the Trump team. During the campaign, Larrabee filed bribery complaints against Trump and then-Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi over donations Trump gave to the Bondi campaign around the same time she decided not to join other attorney generals in bringing fraud claims against Trump U. Trump ended up paying an IRS fine to settle the allegations surrounding the alleged illegal donation.

The bar complaint filed against Priebus, who is a licensed attorney in Wisconsin, revolves around an incident where Priebus allegedly contacted and communicated with FBI Deputy Director Andrew McCabe and FBI Director James Comey about an investigation into the Trump administration and its possible ties to the Kremlin. During these alleged conversations, Priebus apparently unsuccessfully tried to persuade the FBI to essentially shoot down a *New York Times* story claiming that the Trump Campaign had numerous conversations with Russian officials during the election.

The complaint goes on to accuse Priebus of engaging in a corrupt act that is against longstanding DOJ guidelines and ethics rules.

"Priebus' corrupt communications implicitly threatened Comey and McCabe with termination of their employment because Trump has the power to remove McCabe from his position as Deputy Director of the FBI and to remove Comey from his position as Director of the FBI if they do not comply with the requests of the President as communicated through his agent and Chief of Staff," the complaint states.

It also alleges sufficient evidence exists to possibly charge Priebus with Obstruction of Justice and an attempt to impede a legitimate criminal investigation.

At the very least, Larrabee believes the complaint provides sufficient basis for the Wisconsin Office of Lawyer Regulation to act and possibly strip Priebus of his license to practice law.

There is no timeline for whether the Wisconsin Bar will act and it is unlikely Priebus will address the matter. LawNewz reached out out

MORE FROM AROUND THE WEB

by Zergnet



Former Playmate Makes Disgusting Allegation Against Al Franken



This Is OJ Simpson's Surprising Net Worth



Celebrities Who Are Surprisingly Poor



Tesla Unveils New Electric Semi Truck



The Untold Truth of Richard Branson

Digitally signed by
Kathryn Ross
Date: 2017.11.17
16:51:51 -05'00'

Exhibit D

J. Whitfield Larrabee Tweets

16044469000

Tweets

Tweets & replies

Media

Lik



1

1



J Whitfield Larrabee · 8/22/16 ✓

I was quoted today in Orlando Sentinel "corrupt, unprincipled, bigoted and ruthless individuals" #Trump #PamBondi fw.to/O9d7u5J

1



J Whitfield Larrabee @j... · 8/5/16 ✓

The Trump tax complaint is here. larrabeelaw.com/wp-content/upl... The US and NY Bribery Complaints are here. larrabeelaw.com/wp-content/upl... #trumptaxes

1

2




J Whitfield Larrabee @j... · 8/4/16 ✓

I just filed a complaint against ...

10044466004

16047467096

Tweets Tweets & replies Media Lik



if @realdonaldtrump wins election,
a Democratic Senate likely to
investigate #PamBondi #bondigate
#bondibribe for.tn/2d3MIh4?
xid=fo...



J Whitfield Larrabee · 9/25/16



Daily Beast concurs with my
complaints that @realdonaldtrump
could be indicted for bribery
#bondibribe #bondigate thebea.st/
2cpSVmG



J Whitfield Larrabee · 9/24/16



washingtonpost.com/politics/
trump... More instances of serious
law breaking by Trump. His
antisocial tendencies are a danger
to society.




16047467000

Tweets

Tweets & replies


Media

Lik


 941

 19.1K

 26.8K





J Whitfield Larrabee · 10/5/16 

Attorney Larrabee: Bondi's office
careless, never checked for conflict
of interest with Trump donation
tampabay.com/blogs/the-buzz...
#bondigate



Attorney: Bondi's office never
checked for conflict of interest
tampabay.com









Tweets Tweets & replies Media Lik

Opinion | America Elects a Bigot

I do not respect this president-...
nytimes.com



J Whitfield Larrabee · 11/9/16



Thanks to Donald Trump, I'll be getting much more active over the next four years. I feel a greater sense of purpose.



J Whitfield Larrabee · 11/9/16



Trump's ignorant, dangerous and delusional statements about global warming and the climate crisis give me a sense of urgency.



Tweets

Tweets & replies

Media

Lik

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J Whitfield Larrabee · 11/9/16 ✓

Our enemies are often our greatest friends. I'm going to be more motivated to act in light of Trump's election.

1



J Whitfield Larrabee · 11/9/16 ✓

Victory is often just around the corner from defeat. The seeds of justice are often found in the soil of injustice.

1



J Whitfield Larrabee · 10/14/16 ✓

List of Women Who've Accused Trump of Sexual Assault/
Misconduct So Far lawnewz.com/high-profile/...

#trumpevilassaults

1004440908

Tweets Tweets & replies Media Lik



J Whitfield Larrabee · 2/28/17



Here is some interesting analysis and commentary about my complaint against Reince Priebus
occupydemocrats.com/2017/02/27/rei... #TrumpRussia #Russiagate



12

9



J Whitfield Larrabee · 2/27/17



Another interesting article about my complaint against Reince Priebus!
politicususa.com/2017/02/27/mis...
#TheResistance #TrumpCorruption



1004446000

Tweets

Tweets & replies

Media

Lik

3

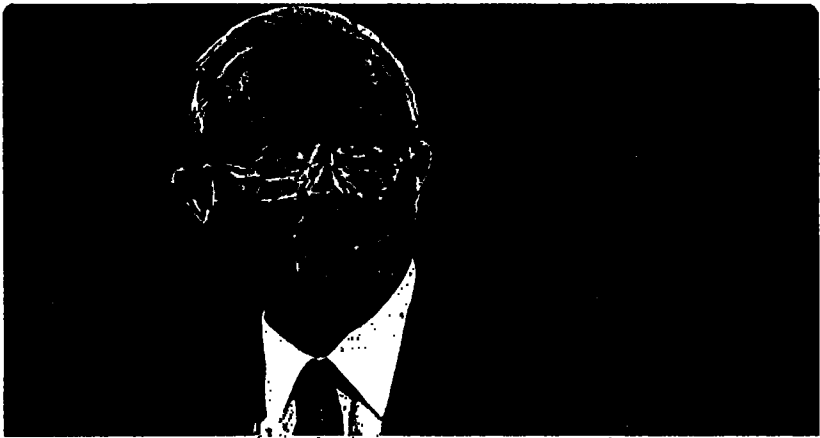
32

43



J Whitfield Larrabee @j... · 3/9/17 ✓

Article on complaint I filed with
Alabama Bar Association against
Jeff Sessions s.al.com/OzG3WcD
#TheResistance #TrumpCorruption



Lawyer files Alabama Bar
Association complaint against J...
[al.com](https://s.al.com)

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57

59

↑ J Whitfield Larrabee Retweeted

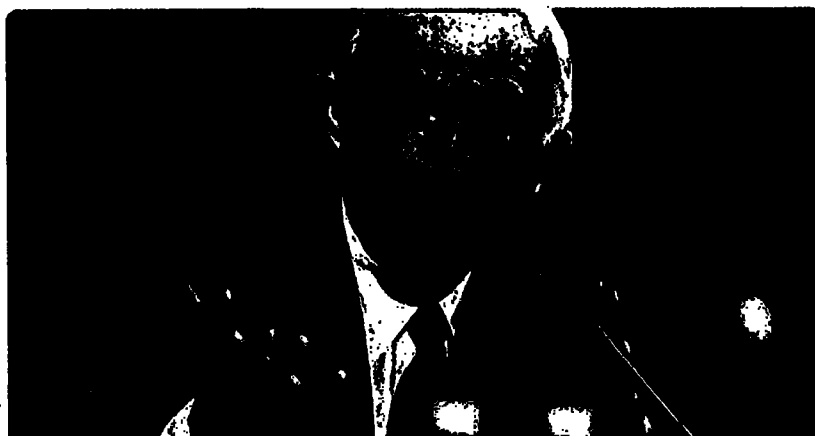
1604467910

Tweets Tweets & replies Media Lik



J Whitfield Larrabee · 3/27/17 ✓

Today, I filed a complaint with DOJ on behalf of 22 citizens. Here's The Washington Post report. #Resist #Session



23 people ask the Justice Department to launch a criminal...
washingtonpost.com

5 71 87



J Whitfield Larrabee · 3/25/17 ✓

Can President Trump handle the



19044467911

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Tweets

Tweets & replies

Media

Lik

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13



J Whitfield Larrabee · 3/27/17

✓

More commentary on our complaint.
Criminal Complaint Filed Against AG
Jeff Sessions For Obstruction Of
Justice



Criminal Complaint Filed Against
Attorney General Jeff Sessions...
politicususa.com

2

15

12



J Whitfield Larrabee · 3/27/17

✓




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Tweets Tweets & replies Media Lik

 937  15.9K  38.1K 



J Whitfield Larrabee · 5/30/17 ✓
Thought experiment. In 1932
Germany, would Trump be a Nazi or
part of the democratic opposition?
#TheResistance rawstory.com/
2016/10/expert...

   2 



J Whitfield Larrabee · 5/30/17 ✓
"A lie told once remains a lie but a
lie told a thousand times becomes
the truth." Joseph Goebbels
thebea.st/21dGgGY?source...
#TrumpCorruption

  8  9 



J Whitfield Larrabee · 5/30/17 ✓
Unbelievable that #Kushner Forgot

Tweets

Tweets & replies

Media

Lik

news/science/a...

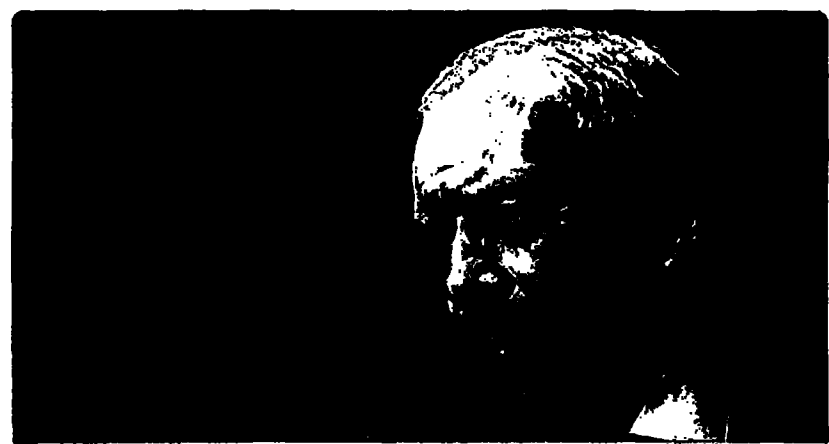
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J Whitfield Larrabee · 6/20/17

✓

Tax Cheat Trump & GOP's Plan to
PERMANENTLY RIG TAX CUTS FOR
THE ONE PERCENT is Class
Warfare..Resistance = Survival



Senate Republicans are getting
ready to admit they don't care a...
vox.com

5

5

19044467914

Tweets

Tweets & replies

Media

Lik



↻ 5

♥ 5



J Whitfield Larrabee · 7/13/17



My complaint is heating it up for
#DanaRohrabacher & #EdRoyce in
Orange County!



Royce and Rohrabacher Got
Illegal Dough from Pro-Russia G...
ocweekly.com

💬 4

↻ 13

♥ 26



↻ J Whitfield Larrabee Retweeted



Barry Ritholtz ✓ @rith... · 7/13/17



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19944467916

AT&T 6:06 PM

<

J Whitfield Larrabee
533 Tweets

+

Tweets Tweets & replies Media Lik

democracynow.org

1 2 3



J Whitfield Larrabee · 7/18/17 ✓

As a "shark" attorney, I detect blood in water as a result of the GOP healthcare defeat. It's a huge victory in the struggle for democracy.

1 4



J Whitfield Larrabee · 7/17/17 ✓

OK. Now that we've celebrated defeating TrumpCare, let's pull up our socks and defeat tax cuts for the rich. #NoTaxCutsForTheRich

 1 4

J Whitfield Larrabee Retweeted



The Associated Press ✓ · 7/17/17 ✓



16044467617

Tweets

Tweets & replies

Media

Lik

1



J Whitfield Larrabee · 7/31/17 ✓

Let's shout from our rooftops that
Trump/GOP are sabotaging the
Affordable Care Act #TheResistance
#TrumpCorruption



Next on Republicans' Agenda:
Sabotaging Obamacare
newrepublic.com


5



J Whitfield Larrabee · 7/29/17 ✓



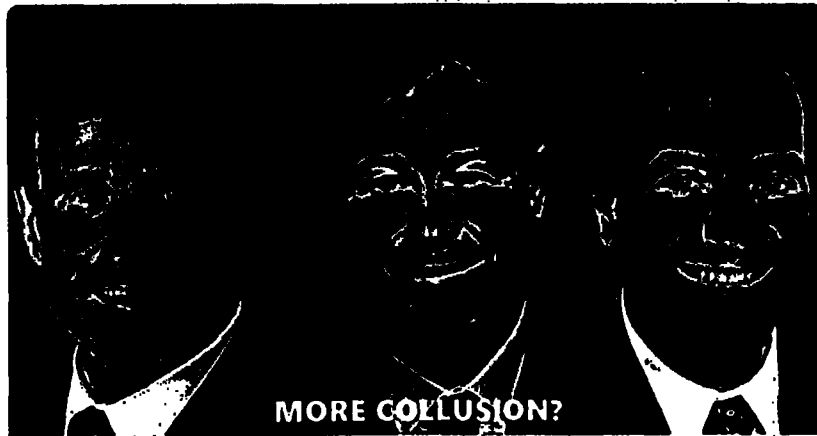
Tweets Tweets & replies Media Lik

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J Whitfield Larrabee · 8/16/17

Our complaint against
#DanaRohrabacher, #EdRoyce &
#Jim Risch getting some more
traction in the media! #TrumpRussia



Complaint Filed Against Multiple
Republicans for Accepting Illeg...
ir.net

 9  167  195 



J Whitfield Larrabee · 8/16/17



10044467018

Tweets

Tweets & replies

Media

Lik

Girl Scouts Obtain Restraining
Order Against Trump
newyorker.com


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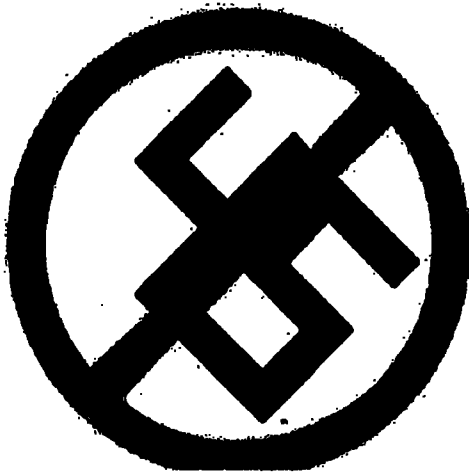
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J Whitfield Larrabee · 8/16/17 


If this were Nazi Germany, Trump
would be a Nazi. If Joseph Goebbels
were alive, he would be
communications director. Scary.
#TheResistance





 3

 6





J Whitfield Larrabee

533 Tweets



Tweets

Tweets & replies

Media

Lik

yahoo.com/news/montea-e...



1



4



4



J Whitfield Larrabee · 8/25/17



Thank you for the recommendation.

I am going to step up

#TheResistance to a new level in
2018! Never, never, never ever, give
up.

 **Monte Alto**  @Monte_Alto

Replying to @Monte_Alto

@Constitution_7 and 3 others

@3L3V3NTH @20committee

@ericgarland @frankthorp

@jimsciutto @jwlarrabee

@RWPUSA & @SethAbramson

are great accounts to follow fo...



1



1



3



J Whitfield Larrabee · 8/24/17



20+



Tweets

Tweets & replies

Media

Lik



J Whitfield Larrabee @j... · 9/8/17 ✓

Make "MEDICARE FOR ALL" the actual and de-facto platform of the Democratic Party. #SinglePayer #MedicareForAll



The stunning Democratic shift on single-payer

vox.com



19044467921

Digitally signed
by Kathryn Ross
Date: 2017.11.17
16:56:16 -05'00'

Exhibit E

J. Whitfield Larrabee's Contributions to the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee

19044467922

Any information copied from such Reports and Statements may not be sold or used by any person for the purpose of soliciting contributions or for commercial purposes, other than using the name and address of any political committee to solicit contributions from such committee.

NAME OF COMMITTEE (In Full)
ActBlue

Full Name (Last, First, Middle Initial) A. ERNIE LARRABEE			Date of Receipt 08/30/2016
Mailing Address 37 MUNROE DR			Transaction ID: SA11AI 86136113
City SHELBURNE	State VT	Zip Code 05482	Amount of Each Receipt this Period 3.00
FEC ID number of contributing federal political committee. C			
Name of Employer NOT EMPLOYED		Occupation NOT EMPLOYED	Earmark <input type="checkbox"/>
Receipt For: <input type="checkbox"/> Primary <input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) ▼		Aggregate Year-to-Date ▼ 142.25	Earmarked for TIM CANOVA FOR CONGRESS (C00602520)

Full Name (Last, First, Middle Initial) B. J. WHITFIELD LARRABEE			Date of Receipt 08/08/2016
Mailing Address 14 SEARLE AVENUE			Transaction ID: SA11AI 8482898
City BROOKLINE	State MA	Zip Code 02445	Amount of Each Receipt this Period 100.00
FEC ID number of contributing federal political committee. C			
Name of Employer SELF		Occupation LAWYER	Earmark <input type="checkbox"/>
Receipt For: <input type="checkbox"/> Primary <input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) ▼		Aggregate Year-to-Date ▼ 100.00	Earmarked for DCCC (C00000935)

Full Name (Last, First, Middle Initial) C. JULIA C LARRABEE			Date of Receipt 08/01/2016
Mailing Address 2907 E 21 STREET			Transaction ID: SA11AI 84190793
City TUCSON	State AZ	Zip Code 85716	Amount of Each Receipt this Period 35.00
FEC ID number of contributing federal political committee. C			
Name of Employer PREFER NOT TO DISCLOSE		Occupation H&S OFFICER	Earmark <input type="checkbox"/>
Receipt For: <input type="checkbox"/> Primary <input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) ▼		Aggregate Year-to-Date ▼ 35.00	Earmarked for DCCC (C00000935)

100444676000

Image# 28992102563

**SCHEDULE A (FEC Form 3X)
ITEMIZED RECEIPTS**Use separate schedule(s)
for each category of the
Detailed Summary Page

FOR LINE NUMBER: PAGE 2563 / 9286

(check only one)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 11a	<input type="checkbox"/> 11b	<input type="checkbox"/> 11c	<input type="checkbox"/> 12
<input type="checkbox"/> 13	<input type="checkbox"/> 14	<input type="checkbox"/> 15	<input type="checkbox"/> 16 <input type="checkbox"/> 17

Any information copied from such Reports and Statements may not be sold or used by any person for the purpose of soliciting contributions or for commercial purposes, other than using the name and address of any political committee to solicit contributions from such committee.

NAME OF COMMITTEE (In Full)

Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee

A. Full Name (Last, First, Middle Initial) Peter Larkin Mailing Address P.O. Box 399 City Bridgehampton State NY Zip Code 11832 FEC ID number of contributing federal political committee. C Name of Employer N/A Occupation Retired Receipt For: Primary General Other (specify) ▼ Aggregate Year-to-Date ▼ 356.00		Date of Receipt 10 / 25 / 2006 Transaction ID: 904947-23607921 Amount of Each Receipt this Period 100.00
B. Full Name (Last, First, Middle Initial) Whitfield Larrabee Mailing Address 14 Searle Avenue City Brookline State MA Zip Code 02445 FEC ID number of contributing federal political committee. C Name of Employer Self-Employed Occupation Attorney Receipt For: Primary General Other (specify) ▼ Aggregate Year-to-Date ▼ 300.00		Date of Receipt 10 / 20 / 2006 Transaction ID: 1100427-24233991 Amount of Each Receipt this Period 300.00
C. Full Name (Last, First, Middle Initial) Carl F Larsen Mailing Address 1701 Sunningdale Rd Apt 53C City Seal Beach State CA Zip Code 90740 FEC ID number of contributing federal political committee. C Name of Employer Information Requested Occupation Information Requested Receipt For: Primary General Other (specify) ▼ Aggregate Year-to-Date ▼ 250.00		Date of Receipt 10 / 26 / 2006 Transaction ID: 730538-23699251 Amount of Each Receipt this Period 50.00
SUBTOTAL of Receipts This Page (optional)		450.00
TOTAL This Period (last page this line number only)		

FESAN026

FEC Schedule A (Form 3X) (Revised 02/2003)

Goto Page #

<< First

<< Previous

Next >>

Last >>|

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160447624

Exhibit F

Podesta Group FARA Filings, April 12, 2017

UNCLASSIFIED



Caplin & Drysdale, Chartered
One Thomas Circle, NW, Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20005
202-862-5000 202-429-3301 Fax
www.caplindrysdale.com

April 12, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Ms. Heather Hunt
Chief
FARA Registration Unit
600 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20004

**Re: Reclassification of the Podesta Group's Prior Lobbying Disclosure Act
Registration for Former Client European Centre for a Modern Ukraine**

Dear Ms. Hunt:

I write today on behalf of my client, the Podesta Group, regarding its prior representation of the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine, a not-for-profit organization based in Belgium. Although the Podesta Group previously registered for this former client under the Lobbying Disclosure Act ("LDA") and disclosed its work on publicly available LDA reports, it is now reclassifying this representation by submitting the enclosed Foreign Agents Registration Act ("FARA") registration. As you know, the Podesta Group has routinely filed FARA registrations for its various clients, and it has no hesitation in doing so in order to underscore its commitment to transparency.

The Podesta Group was retained to perform services for the Centre in 2012. At that time, the Centre certified that it was not "directly or indirectly supervised, directed, controlled, financed or subsidized in whole or in part by a government of a foreign country or a foreign political party." Based on this certification and advice from counsel, the Podesta Group registered and publicly disclosed its work on LDA filings pursuant to a commonly known provision within FARA that allows a firm representing a client located outside the U.S. to file on LDA forms, unless that client is a foreign government or a foreign political party.¹ The Podesta Group continued to submit LDA disclosure filings until its relationship with the Centre ended in 2014.

Considerable time has passed since the end of the Podesta Group's representation of the Centre, but information brought to light in recent months prompted the Podesta Group to retain Caplin & Drysdale to review its original decision to register and report under the LDA. While the Podesta Group believes it was appropriate to disclose its work for the Centre on LDA filings rather than FARA filings because the firm was not retained by any foreign government or political party, it also recognizes that this area of the law features some uncertain legal standards.

¹ 22 U.S.C. § 613(h).

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The Department's FARA regulations, for example, state that LDA submissions are not an option when a foreign government or political party is "the principal beneficiary" of work performed, even when the government or party is not an actual client of the report-filer.² This "principal beneficiary" standard is not contained in FARA's statutory text or defined by Department rules, and the Department has expressed that even it has difficulty in applying this and similar standards in this context.³

The Podesta Group acknowledges that, in light of this undefined legal standard, its work on the Centre's behalf could be interpreted as principally benefiting a foreign government, since the Centre's purpose was to foster closer ties between Ukraine and the West. Accordingly, after constructive consultation with you and your staff, the Podesta Group is reclassifying its prior LDA registration for the Centre by filing a retroactive FARA registration.

The Podesta Group has exercised reasonable due diligence with assistance from counsel in completing this retroactive FARA registration (and associated supplemental statements) for a client representation that ended approximately three years ago. The information disclosed, which is accurate to the best of Podesta Group's knowledge, is derived from the Podesta Group's prior LDA filings for this client, as well as other information currently available to the firm. These forms will be amended as necessary.

We appreciate your assistance and advice in this matter. Please contact me (msanderson@capdale.com; 202-862-5046) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Matthew T. Sanderson
Member
Caplin & Drysdale, Chartered

Enclosures

² 28 C.F.R. § 5.307.

³ U.S. Dept. of Justice Off. of the Inspector General, *Audit of the National Security Division's Enforcement and Administration of the Foreign Agents Registration Act Audit Division* at iii (Sept. 2016) ("Another difficulty NSD cited relates to the breadth and scope of existing exemptions to the FARA registration requirement and determining whether activities performed by certain groups, such as think tanks, non-governmental organizations, university and college campus groups, foreign media entities, and grassroots organizations ... fall within or outside [registration] exemptions.").

U.S. Department of Justice
Washington, DC 20530

OMB No. 1124-0006; Expires April 30, 2017

**Exhibit A to Registration Statement
Pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of
1938, as amended**

INSTRUCTIONS. Furnish this exhibit for EACH foreign principal listed in an initial statement and for EACH additional foreign principal acquired subsequently. The filing of this document requires the payment of a filing fee as set forth in Rule (d)(1), 28 C.F.R. § 5.5(d)(1). Compliance is accomplished by filing an electronic Exhibit A form at <http://www.fara.gov>.

Privacy Act Statement. The filing of this document is required by the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. § 611 *et seq.*, for the purposes of registration under the Act and public disclosure. Provision of the information requested is mandatory, and failure to provide this information is subject to the penalty and enforcement provisions established in Section 8 of the Act. Every registration statement, short form registration statement, supplemental statement, exhibit, amendment, copy of informational materials or other document or information filed with the Attorney General under this Act is a public record open to public examination, inspection and copying during the posted business hours of the Registration Unit in Washington, DC. Statements are also available online at the Registration Unit's webpage: <http://www.fara.gov>. One copy of every such document, other than informational materials, is automatically provided to the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act, and copies of any and all documents are routinely made available to other agencies, departments and Congress pursuant to Section 6(c) of the Act. The Attorney General also transmits a semi-annual report to Congress on the administration of the Act which lists the names of all agents registered under the Act and the foreign principals they represent. This report is available to the public in print and online at: <http://www.fara.gov>.

Public Reporting Burden. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .49 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to Chief, Registration Unit, Counterespionage Section, National Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530; and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

1. Name and Address of Registrant Podesta Group, Inc.		2. Registration No. 5926						
3. Name of Foreign Principal European Centre for a Modern Ukraine	4. Principal Address of Foreign Principal 14 Rue de la Science 1040 Brussels, Belgium							
5. Indicate whether your foreign principal is one of the following: <input type="checkbox"/> Government of a foreign country ¹ <input type="checkbox"/> Foreign political party <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Foreign or domestic organization: If either, check one of the following: <table border="0"><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Partnership</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> Committee</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Corporation</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary group</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Association</td><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) <u>Non-governmental organization</u></td></tr></table> <input type="checkbox"/> Individual-State nationality _____			<input type="checkbox"/> Partnership	<input type="checkbox"/> Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Corporation	<input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary group	<input type="checkbox"/> Association	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) <u>Non-governmental organization</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Partnership	<input type="checkbox"/> Committee							
<input type="checkbox"/> Corporation	<input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary group							
<input type="checkbox"/> Association	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) <u>Non-governmental organization</u>							
6. If the foreign principal is a foreign government, state: a) Branch or agency represented by the registrant b) Name and title of official with whom registrant deals 								
7. If the foreign principal is a foreign political party, state: a) Principal address b) Name and title of official with whom registrant deals c) Principal aim 								

¹ "Government of a foreign country," as defined in Section 1(e) of the Act, includes any person or group of persons exercising sovereign de facto or de jure political jurisdiction over any country, other than the United States, or over any part of such country, and includes any subdivision of any such group and any group or agency to which such sovereign de facto or de jure authority or functions are directly or indirectly delegated. Such term shall include any faction or body of insurgents within a country assuming to exercise governmental authority whether such faction or body of insurgents has or has not been recognized by the United States.

8. If the foreign principal is not a foreign government or a foreign political party:

a) State the nature of the business or activity of this foreign principal.

The European Centre for a Modern Ukraine is a non-governmental organization whose mission is to improve ties between Ukraine and Western countries by promoting the admission of Ukraine into the European Union and aligning with other Western institutions.

b) Is this foreign principal:

Supervised by a foreign government, foreign political party, or other foreign principal		Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Owned by a foreign government, foreign political party, or other foreign principal	Please see	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Directed by a foreign government, foreign political party, or other foreign principal	Question:9	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Controlled by a foreign government, foreign political party, or other foreign principal	below	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Financed by a foreign government, foreign political party, or other foreign principal		Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Subsidized in part by a foreign government, foreign political party, or other foreign principal		Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

9. Explain fully all items answered "Yes" in Item 8(b). (If additional space is needed, a full insert page must be used.)

Prior to engagement, Ina Kirsch, Executive Director of the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine, provided written certification to the Registrant that "none of the activities of the Centre are directly or indirectly supervised, directed, controlled, financed, or subsidized in whole or in major part by a government of a foreign country or a foreign political party." Furthermore, Ms. Kirsch attested that the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine would immediately inform the Registrant should that representation no longer be true and correct. Neither Ms. Kirsch nor any representative of the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine ever informed the Registrant that the signed certification was no longer accurate. The Registrant has no direct knowledge of the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine's sources of funding. It was also represented to the Registrant that the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine was controlled by certain individual foreign principals who collectively controlled the Centre.

10. If the foreign principal is an organization and is not owned or controlled by a foreign government, foreign political party or other foreign principal, state who owns and controls it.

EXECUTION

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746, the undersigned swears or affirms under penalty of perjury that he/she has read the information set forth in this Exhibit A to the registration statement and that he/she is familiar with the contents thereof and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her knowledge and belief.


Date of Exhibit A	Name and Title	Signature
4-12-17	Kimberley Fritts, CEO	

Exhibit B to Registration Statement
Pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of
1938, as amended

INSTRUCTIONS. A registrant must furnish as an Exhibit B copies of each written agreement and the terms and conditions of each oral agreement with his foreign principal, including all modifications of such agreements, or, where no contract exists, a full statement of all the circumstances by reason of which the registrant is acting as an agent of a foreign principal. Compliance is accomplished by filing an electronic Exhibit B form at <http://www.fara.gov>.

Privacy Act Statement. The filing of this document is required for the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. § 611 *et seq.*, for the purposes of registration under the Act and public disclosure. Provision of the information requested is mandatory, and failure to provide the information is subject to the penalty and enforcement provisions established in Section 8 of the Act. Every registration statement, short form registration statement, supplemental statement, exhibit, amendment, copy of informational materials or other document or information filed with the Attorney General under this Act is a public record open to public examination, inspection and copying during the posted business hours of the Registration Unit in Washington, DC. Statements are also available online at the Registration Unit's webpage: <http://www.fara.gov>. One copy of every such document, other than informational materials, is automatically provided to the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act, and copies of any and all documents are routinely made available to other agencies, departments and Congress pursuant to Section 6(c) of the Act. The Attorney General also transmits a semi-annual report to Congress on the administration of the Act which lists the names of all agents registered under the Act and the foreign principals they represent. This report is available to the public in print and online at: <http://www.fara.gov>.

Public Reporting Burden. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .33 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to Chief, Registration Unit, Counterespionage Section, National Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530; and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

1. Name of Registrant Podesta Group, Inc.	2. Registration No. 5926
3. Name of Foreign Principal European Centre for a Modern Ukraine	

Check Appropriate Box:

4. ☒ The agreement between the registrant and the above-named foreign principal is a formal written contract. If this box is checked, attach a copy of the contract to this exhibit.
5. ☐ There is no formal written contract between the registrant and the foreign principal. The agreement with the above-named foreign principal has resulted from an exchange of correspondence. If this box is checked, attach a copy of all pertinent correspondence, including a copy of any initial proposal which has been adopted by reference in such correspondence.
6. ☐ The agreement or understanding between the registrant and the foreign principal is the result of neither a formal written contract nor an exchange of correspondence between the parties. If this box is checked, give a complete description below of the terms and conditions of the oral agreement or understanding, its duration, the fees and expenses, if any, to be received.
7. Describe fully the nature and method of performance of the above indicated agreement or understanding.
Please see attachment

8. Describe fully the activities the registrant engages in or proposes to engage in on behalf of the above foreign principal.

Please see attachment

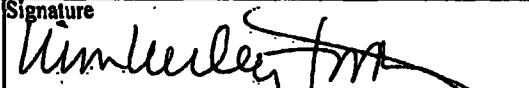
9. Will the activities on behalf of the above foreign principal include political activities as defined in Section 1(o) of the Act and in the footnote below? Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, describe all such political activities indicating, among other things, the relations, interests or policies to be influenced together with the means to be employed to achieve this purpose.

Please see attachment

EXECUTION

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746, the undersigned swears or affirms under penalty of perjury that he/she has read the information set forth in this Exhibit B to the registration statement and that he/she is familiar with the contents thereof and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her knowledge and belief.

Date of Exhibit B	Name and Title	Signature
4-12-17	Kimberley Fritts, CEO	

Footnote: "Political activity," as defined in Section 1(o) of the Act, means any activity which the person engaging in believes will, or that the person intends to, in any way influence any agency or official of the Government of the United States or any section of the public within the United States with reference to formulating, adopting, or changing the domestic or foreign policies of the United States or with reference to the political or public interests, policies, or relations of a government of a foreign country or a foreign political party.

ATTACHMENT A
(responses to Questions 7, 8, and 9)

The Registrant was retained by the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine (ECFMU), a nongovernmental organization based in Brussels, to assist in advancing its mission of improving ties between Ukraine and the West, with an ultimate goal of Ukrainian admission into the European Union and closer alignment with other Western Institutions. The Registrant provided government relations and public relations services within the United States and Europe to promote political and economic cooperation between Ukraine and the West.

The Registrant arranged meetings and media opportunities regarding Ukraine's Western integration for Ukrainian and European politicians and business leaders visiting the United States, including former Italian Prime Minister Romano Prodi, former Austrian Chancellor Alfred Gusenbauer, former Polish President and then-Special Envoy to Ukraine for the European Parliament Aleksander Kwasniewski, former Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko and other Ukrainian officials. The Registrant communicated with US think tanks, corporations, media outlets and government officials to discuss issues related to Ukraine's economic, electoral and legal systems. Government relations activities were disclosed by the Registrant pursuant to the Lobbying Disclosure Act and included outreach to officials within the US House of Representative, US Senate, Department of State, National Security Council, United States Trade Representative, and Overseas Private Investment Corporation.

Within Europe, the Registrant sought to arrange meetings for American politicians visiting European nations to promote improved relations between Ukraine and the West. At ECFMU's request, the Registrant provided information to ECFMU staff to help the organization build credibility among Ukrainian government officials and help persuade those officials to continue to move toward Western integration.

1004460000

ENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT

Dated April 18, 2012

THIS ENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT ("Agreement") is effective this April 18, 2012, by and between the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine, ("Client") having its principal office located at 14 Rue de la Science, 1040 Brussels, Belgium, and the PODESTA GROUP, ("the Provider") having its principal office located at 1001 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001.

WHEREAS, Client wishes to have the Provider performing the services hereinafter referred to, and

WHEREAS, the Provider is willing to perform these services,

NOW THEREFORE THE PARTIES hereby agree as follows:

Services

The Provider shall perform services to assist the Client in strengthening its ties to various organizations in the United States. The Provider shall achieve objectives through a combination of policy and communications expertise, as well as other services that may be agreed by the Parties in writing, ("the Services").

Term

The Provider shall perform the Services during the period commencing on April 18, 2012 and continuing through the term, the date of termination, or any other period, as may be subsequently agreed by the parties in writing.

Payment

Client shall pay the Provider an amount mutually agreed by the parties, for services rendered, plus pre-approved expenses for travel. Client shall pay Provider by wire transfer in advance of each month, including the beginning of the term of this Agreement. The payment of the expenses shall be performed upon prior written consent of Client. Pre-approved expenses for each month period shall be invoiced and paid with the fees due for the following period.

Client's Representative

Client designates Ms. Ina Kirsch as its representative. The representative shall be responsible for the coordination of activities under this Agreement.

Performance Standard

The Provider undertakes to perform the Services with the highest standards of professional and ethical competence and integrity. Provider shall comply with the Foreign Agents Registration Act, and any other applicable United States laws.

Confidentiality

The Providers shall not, during the term of this Agreement and within two years after its expiration, disclose any proprietary or confidential information relating to the Services, this Agreement or ECFMU business or operations without the prior written consent of ECFMU.

Ownership of Material

Any studies, reports, opinions or other material, or otherwise, prepared by the Provider for Client under the Agreement shall belong to and remain the property of Client. The Provider may retain a copy of such documents and software.

Governing Law and Language

The Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the District of Columbia and the United States of America, and the language of the Agreement shall be English.

Termination

Both Parties may terminate the Agreement with at least 60 days prior written notice to each other. Payment for services shall be made through the date of the termination.

Amendment

This Agreement may not be modified or amended except by an instrument in writing by the parties hereto.


For the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine

Name (print): Ina Kirsch

Date: 30.12.2012


For the Podesta Group

Name (print): ANTHONY T. PODESTA

Date: 18 Apr 2012

1-800-444-6911

1-800-444-6911

- 1-800-444-6911**

1-800-444-6911

1-800-444-6911

1-800-444-6911

**Amendment to Registration Statement
Pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of
1938, as amended**

INSTRUCTIONS. File this amendment form for any changes to a registration. Compliance is accomplished by filing an electronic amendment to registration statement and uploading any supporting documents at <http://www.fara.gov>.

Privacy Act Statement. The filing of this document is required for the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. § 611 *et seq.*, for the purposes of registration under the Act and public disclosure. Provision of the information requested is mandatory, and failure to provide the information is subject to the penalty and enforcement provisions established in Section 8 of the Act. Every registration statement, short form registration statement, supplemental statement, exhibit, amendment, copy of informational materials or other document or information filed with the Attorney General under this Act is a public record open to public examination, inspection and copying during the posted business hours of the Registration Unit in Washington, DC. Statements are also available online at the Registration Unit's webpage: <http://www.fara.gov>. One copy of every such document, other than informational materials, is automatically provided to the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act, and copies of any and all documents are routinely made available to other agencies, departments and Congress pursuant to Section 6(c) of the Act. The Attorney General also transmits a semi-annual report to Congress on the administration of the Act which lists the names of all agents registered under the Act and the foreign principals they represent. This report is available to the public in print and online at: <http://www.fara.gov>.

Public Reporting Burden. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1.5 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to Chief, Registration Unit, Counterespionage Section, National Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530; and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

1. Name of Registrant Podesta Group, Inc.	2. Registration No. 5926
--	---------------------------------

3. This amendment is filed to accomplish the following indicated purpose or purposes:

- ☐ To give a 10-day notice of change in information as required by Section 2(b) of the Act.
- ☒ To correct a deficiency in
- ☐ Initial Statement
- ☒ Supplemental Statement for the period ending 6/30/12, 12/31/12, 6/30/13, 12/31/13, 6/30/14
- ☐ Other purpose (*specify*) _____
- ☐ To give notice of change in an exhibit previously filed.

4. If this amendment requires the filing of a document or documents, please list:

Please see attachment for amended responses to the Supplemental Statements for the periods ending June 30, 2012, December 31, 2012, June 30, 2013, December 31, 2013 and June 30, 2014.

5. Each item checked above must be explained below in full detail together with, where appropriate, specific reference to and identity of the item in the registration statement to which it pertains. (*If space is insufficient, a full insert page must be used.*)

Please see attachment for amended responses related to Registrant's work on behalf of the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine.

EXECUTION

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746, the undersigned swear(s) or affirm(s) under penalty of perjury that he/she has (they have) read the information set forth in this registration statement and the attached exhibits and that he/she is (they are) familiar with the contents thereof and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her (their) knowledge and belief, except that the undersigned make(s) no representation as to the truth or accuracy of the information contained in the attached Short Form Registration Statement(s), if any, insofar as such information is not within his/her (their) personal knowledge.

(Date of signature)

4-12-17

(Print or type name under each signature or provide electronic signature¹)

Kimberley J. Fitts
Kimberley Fitts

¹ This statement shall be signed by the individual agent, if the registrant is an individual, or by a majority of those partners, officers, directors or persons performing similar functions, if the registrant is an organization, except that the organization can, by power of attorney, authorize one or more individuals to execute this statement on its behalf.

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING 6/30/2012

Question 8

Name and Address of Foreign Principal:
European Centre for a Modern Ukraine
14 Rue de la Science
1040 Brussels, Belgium

Date Acquired:
4/18/12

Question 11

The Registrant provided government relations and public relations services within the United States and Europe to promote political and economic cooperation between Ukraine and the West. The Registrant conducted outreach to congressional and executive branch offices, members of the media, nongovernmental organizations and think tanks.

Question 12

NOTE: In an effort to disclose its prior representation that ended three years ago, the Registrant has carefully reviewed its timekeeping records, which show that the firm performed the following work for the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine. Whenever possible, the names and offices of individuals contacted and the means of contact (email, phone call, meeting) have been listed, but in many instances those details are not in the firm's timekeeping records.

Date	Description of Activities
4/23/2012	Meeting with Ken Wollack, National Democratic Institute
5/9/2012	Outreach to congressional offices
5/10/2012	Outreach to congressional offices and Administration officials
5/10/2012	Emails and phone calls with Mary Beth Sheridan (Washington Post), Steven Karamow (Bloomberg); Susan Glasser and Christian Caryl (Foreign Policy); Ken Beesly and Michele Keleman (NPR); Susan Cornwell (Reuters); Steven Myers (New York Times) and Christian Science Monitor
5/11/2012	Outreach to congressional offices and phone call with Administration officials
5/11/2012	Emails to Joshua Keating (Foreign Policy), Karen DeYoung (Washington Post), and Fred Hiatt (Washington Post)
5/14/2012	Outreach to congressional staff
5/15/2012	Outreach to congressional staff; phone call with Administration officials
5/25/2012	Emails with staff of Sen. Inhofe
5/29/2012	Emails with Senate staff
5/30/2012	Emails to congressional offices
6/4/2012	Outreach to Administration officials
6/7/2012	Outreach to congressional staff
6/20/2012	Outreach to congressional offices
6/25/2012	Outreach to Christian Caryl, Foreign Policy

6/28/2012	Outreach to congressional offices
6/29/2012	Outreach to congressional offices

Question 14(a)

Date	From Whom	Purpose	Amount
5/30/12	European Centre for a Modern Ukraine	Fee	\$130,000

Question 15(a)

Date	Foreign Principal	Purpose	Amount
4/12 - 6/12	European Centre for a Modern Ukraine	Transportation/Travel	\$12.00
4/12 - 6/12	European Centre for a Modern Ukraine	Office expenses	\$487.47

1000446440001

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING 12/31/2012

Question 9

European Centre for a Modern Ukraine

Question 11

The Registrant provided government relations and public relations services within the United States and Europe to promote political and economic cooperation between Ukraine and the West. The Registrant conducted outreach to congressional and executive branch offices, members of the media, nongovernmental organizations and think tanks.

Question 12

NOTE: In an effort to disclose its prior representation that ended three years ago, the Registrant has carefully reviewed its timekeeping records, which show that the firm performed the following work for the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine. Whenever possible, the names and offices of individuals contacted and the means of contact (email, phone call, meeting) have been listed, but in many instances those details are not in the firm's timekeeping records.

Date	Description of Activities
7/2/2012	Outreach to congressional offices
7/3/2012	Outreach to congressional offices; outreach to office of Rep. Kaptur
7/5/2012	Outreach to congressional offices
7/8/2012	Outreach to think tanks
7/8/2012	Outreach to congressional staff
7/9/2012	Outreach and meeting requests with congressional offices
7/9/2012	Emails and phone calls to Heather Maher (Radio Free Europe), Jackson Diehl and Fred Hiatt (Washington Post), Joshua Keating (Foreign Policy) and John Broder (CQ)
7/10/2012	Meeting request, Center for American Progress
7/10/2012	Emails and meetings with congressional staff
7/10/2012	Outreach to Voice of America
7/11/2012	Emails and meetings with congressional staff
7/11/2012	Meeting with Corey Flintoff, NPR
7/11/2012	Emails and phone calls with Eli Lake
7/11/2012	Phone calls and emails with Voice of America
7/12/2012	Meeting with Center for American Progress
7/12/2012	Meetings with congressional staff
7/24/2012	Meeting with House Judiciary staff
7/31/2012	Meetings with reporters at Reuters and Bloomberg
8/2/2012	Phone call with Washington Post
8/7/2012	Outreach to National Democratic Institute

8/10/2012	Outreach to congressional staff
8/13/2012	Phone call and outreach to congressional staff
8/18/2012	Outreach to State Department officials
8/19/2012	Phone call and outreach to congressional staff
8/21/2012	Outreach to congressional staff
8/22/2012	Phone call and outreach to congressional staff
8/23/2012	Phone call with congressional staff
9/13/2012	Outreach to reporters
9/17/2012	Phone call and outreach to congressional staff
9/19/2012	Phone call and outreach to Senate staff
9/20/2012	Emails to Lynn Berry (AP)
9/20/2012	Emails to Ellen Barry (NYT)
9/21/2012	Outreach to Senate offices
9/24/2012	emails to staff at National Security Council and Office of the Vice President
10/1/2012	Emails to congressional staff
10/5/2012	Outreach to UN Observer Mission
10/11/2012	Outreach to congressional offices
10/11/2012	Email to Ellen Barry (NYT)
10/11/2012	emails and phone calls to Roger Boyes (Times of London); Shaun Walker (The Independent); Nell Buckley (Financial Times); Dan McLaughlin (Irish Times); Corey Flintoff (NPR); Jamie Kirchick (Foreign Policy); Ed Lucas (Economist); Jill Dougherty (CNN); Kateryna Choursina (Bloomberg); Kathy Lally and Will Englund (Washington Post)
10/12/2012	Outreach to congressional staff
10/12/2012	Emails and phone calls to Charles Clover (Financial Times); Joshua Yaffa (Economist); Ben Arnoldy (Christian Science Monitor); Corey Flintoff (NPR); Reuters, Bloomberg and Financial Times
10/15/2012	outreach to State Department European Affairs, National Security Council; meeting with State Department
10/15/2012	Outreach to congressional staff
10/15/2012	Emails and phone calls with David Herszenhorn (NYT); Joshua Yaffa (Economist); Maria Danilova (AP); Corey Flintoff (NPR); Jay Newton Smal (Time) and Susan Glasser (Foreign Policy)
10/15/2012	Email to Dan McLaughlin (Irish Times)
10/16/2012	outreach to State Department European Affairs, National Security Council; meeting with State Department
10/16/2012	Outreach to congressional staff
10/17/2012	outreach to State Department European Affairs, National Security Council; meeting with State Department
10/17/2012	Outreach to congressional staff
10/18/2012	outreach to State Department European Affairs, National Security Council; meeting with State Department
10/18/2012	Outreach to congressional staff

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10/19/2012	outreach to State Department European Affairs, National Security Council; meeting with State Department
10/19/2012	Outreach to congressional staff
10/19/2012	Emails to David Herzzenhorn (NYT) and Will Englund (Washington Post)
10/21/2012	Emails to congressional staff
10/22/2012	email Liz Sherwood-Randall and Dmitry Vovchuk, National Security Staff
10/22/2012	Outreach to congressional staff
10/23/2012	Phone call with Senate staff
10/23/2012	email Phil Reeker and Dan Russell, State Department
10/23/2012	Outreach to congressional staff
10/24/2012	Emails with International Republican Institute observers Rina Amiri and Prof. Jukynas
10/24/2012	Emails with Baxter Hunt, Ernest Abisellan, and Bay Fang, State Department
10/24/2012	Outreach to congressional staff
10/25/2012	emails and meeting with DAS Russell and Bay Fang, State Department; outreach to IRI observers; outreach to congressional staff
10/26/2012	emails with State Department and National Security Staff officials
10/26/2012	Outreach to congressional staff
10/28/2012	emails with State Department officials
10/28/2012	Outreach to congressional staff
10/29/2012	emails with State Department officials
10/29/2012	Outreach to congressional staff
10/30/2012	emails with State Department officials
10/30/2012	Outreach to congressional staff
10/31/2012	Outreach to congressional staff
11/1/2012	emails with National Security Council and State Department officials; phone call with Chris Hensman, State Department
11/1/2012	Outreach to congressional staff
11/2/2012	Conversation with State Department Press Office Director
11/2/2012	Outreach to congressional staff
11/8/2012	emails with State Department officials
11/8/2012	emails to International Herald Tribune, Jackson Diehl (Washington Post) and Carol Giacomo (NYT)
11/8/2012	Emails with congressional staff
11/7/2012	Outreach to congressional staff
11/8/2012	Outreach to congressional offices
11/9/2012	Outreach to State Department officials
11/9/2012	Outreach to congressional staff
11/12/2012	Emails to reporters, Foreign Policy and Associated Press
11/13/2012	Outreach to congressional offices
11/14/2012	Outreach to State Department officials
11/14/2012	Outreach to congressional staff
11/15/2012	Outreach to congressional staff

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11/16/2012	Meeting with Helsinki Commission
11/16/2012	Outreach to congressional staff
11/19/2012	Outreach to congressional staff
11/19/2012	Outreach to reporters with The Hill, Foreign Policy, CQ/Roll Call and CNN
11/20/2012	Meeting with Amb. Olexander Motsyk
11/20/2012	Emails to Washington Post and The Hill
11/21/2012	Emails with The Hill
11/27/2012	Phone call and emails with State Department officials
11/27/2012	Emails with Julian Pequet (The Hill)
11/29/2012	Emails with Julian Pequet (The Hill)
12/1/2012	Emails with Julian Pequet (The Hill)
12/5/2012	Meeting with Mark Levin, National Conference on Soviet Jewry
12/10/2012	Outreach to reporter, Associated Press
12/11/2012	Outreach to CSIS
12/13/2012	Meeting with Amb. Olexander Motsyk
12/13/2012	Outreach to State Department officials; outreach to reporters
12/26/2012	emails with State Department officials
12/27/2012	Emails to congressional staff
12/31/2012	Outreach to congressional staff

Question 14(a)

Date	From Whom	Purpose	Amount
8/3/2012	European Centre for a Modern Ukraine	Fee	\$195,000
10/10/2012	European Centre for a Modern Ukraine	Fee	\$130,000
11/16/2012	European Centre for a Modern Ukraine	Fee	\$50,000
12/21/2012	European Centre for a Modern Ukraine	Fee/Reimbursement	\$54,649.51

Question 15(a)

Date	Foreign Principal	Purpose	Amount
7/12 - 12/12	European Centre for a Modern Ukraine	Meals	\$139.92
7/12 - 12/12	European Centre for a Modern Ukraine	Office expenses	\$877.11
7/12 - 12/12	European Centre for a Modern Ukraine	Transportation/Travel	\$3,353.96

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING 6/30/2013

Question 9

European Centre for a Modern Ukraine

Question 11

The Registrant provided government relations and public relations services within the United States and Europe to promote political and economic cooperation between Ukraine and the West. The Registrant conducted outreach to congressional and executive branch offices, members of the media, nongovernmental organizations and think tanks.

Question 12

NOTE: In an effort to disclose its prior representation that ended three years ago, the Registrant has carefully reviewed its timekeeping records, which show that the firm performed the following work for the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine. Whenever possible, the names and offices of individuals contacted and the means of contact (email, phone call, meeting) have been listed, but in many instances those details are not in the firm's timekeeping records.

Date	Description of Activities
1/4/2013	Meeting with Tom Nides, State Department
1/4/2013	Meeting with Jeremy Shapiro
1/8/2013	Meeting with Jim Brooke, Voice of America
1/9/2013	Meeting with Yaroslav Brisluck, Ukraine embassy
1/10/2013	Phone calls with CSIS and GMFUS
1/10/2013	Outreach to office of Michael McFaul
1/10/2013	Outreach to congressional staff
1/11/2013	Meeting with State Department officials
1/11/2013	Meeting with congressional staff
1/13/2013	Emails with congressional staff
1/14/2013	Emails with congressional staff
1/15/2013	Outreach to congressional staff
1/16/2013	Email with Yaroslav Brisluck, Ukraine embassy
1/17/2013	Meeting with Helsinki Commission
1/17/2013	Meeting and outreach with congressional staff
1/21/2013	Meeting with Damon Wilson, Atlantic Council
1/22/2013	Phone call with State Department officials
1/25/2013	Emails with think tanks
1/28/2013	Meeting with Myron Brilliant, US Chamber of Commerce
1/28/2013	Meeting and emails with congressional staff

1/29/2013	Meeting with Evelyn Farka, State Department
2/4/2013	Meeting with Jake Sullivan, State Department
2/7/2013	Outreach to congressional staff
2/12/2013	Outreach to congressional staff
2/13/2013	Meeting and outreach with congressional staff
2/14/2013	Outreach to State Department officials
2/15/2013	Phone call with State Department officials
2/25/2013	Outreach to National Security Council and congressional staff
2/26/2013	Outreach to congressional staff
2/27/2013	Outreach to congressional staff
2/28/2013	Outreach to congressional offices
3/1/2013	Outreach to Congress
3/1/2013	Meeting with staff of House Foreign Affairs Committee
3/4/2013	Meeting request, Office of Rep. Keating; Outreach to congressional staff
3/5/2013	Emails and phone call with State Department officials
3/5/2013	Outreach to congressional staff
3/7/2013	Outreach to congressional staff
3/8/2013	Outreach to congressional staff
3/10/2013	Outreach to congressional staff
3/11/2013	Emails and phone call with State Department officials
3/11/2013	Outreach to congressional staff
3/12/2013	Meeting with Jay Newton Small, TIME Magazine
3/12/2013	Outreach to State Department officials
3/13/2013	Meetings with congressional offices
3/14/2013	Attend event with Romano Prodi, former Italian Prime Minister
3/14/2013	Meetings with congressional offices
3/19/2013	Outreach to Christian Science Monitor
3/19/2013	Outreach to congressional offices
3/20/2013	Outreach to congressional staff
3/21/2013	Outreach to Christian Science Monitor
3/22/2013	Phone call with State Department officials
3/22/2013	Emails with staff of House Appropriations Committee
3/27/2013	Meeting with staff of Rep. Sires
3/27/2013	Outreach to reporters
3/28/2013	" " with State Department officials
4/1/2013	Outreach to reporters
4/2/2013	Outreach to congressional staff
4/2/2013	Outreach to reporters
4/3/2013	Emails with United States Trade Representative officials
4/3/2013	Outreach to congressional staff
4/3/2013	Outreach to reporters

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4/8/2013	Outreach to congressional staff
4/9/2013	Outreach to congressional staff and Administration officials
4/11/2013	Outreach to congressional staff
4/12/2013	Outreach to congressional staff
4/16/2013	phone call with Tom Michels, Shell Oil
4/17/2013	Outreach to think tanks
4/17/2013	phone call with officials from Shell Oil
4/18/2013	Phone calls and emails with staff of Reps. Lankford and Ryan; outreach to officials from Shell Oil
4/18/2013	Phone calls to reporters
4/19/2013	Meeting request with office of Rep. Lankford; phone call with Tom Michels, Shell Oil
4/22/2013	Meeting request with office of Rep. Lankford
4/23/2013	Meeting request, Rep. Kaptur
4/23/2013	Outreach to office of Rep. Lankford; outreach to officials at Shell Oil
4/23/2013	Outreach to reporters
4/24/2013	Outreach to Administration officials
4/24/2013	Outreach to reporters
4/25/2013	Outreach to reporters
4/26/2013	Outreach to Administration officials
4/26/2013	Outreach to reporters
4/29/2013	Outreach to reporters
4/30/2013	Meeting request, Rep. Kaptur
4/30/2013	Outreach to reporters
5/1/2013	Outreach to reporters
5/2/2013	Outreach to reporters
5/6/2013	Outreach to reporters
5/7/2013	Outreach to reporters
5/8/2013	Meeting with CSIS
5/8/2013	Meeting with State Department officials; outreach to congressional staff
5/8/2013	Meetings with Rep. Kaptur, Sen. Cardin
5/8/2013	Outreach to reporters, Wall Street Journal and New York Times
5/9/2013	Meeting with Sen. Murphy
5/9/2013	Meetings with congressional office and think tanks
5/9/2013	Outreach to reporters, New York Times
5/10/2013	Outreach to reporters, New York Times
5/15/2013	Meeting with Jill Schuker, OECD
5/16/2013	Outreach to congressional staff
5/21/2013	Outreach to congressional staff
5/21/2013	Outreach to reporters
5/22/2013	Meeting request, Office of Sen. Cardin; Outreach to congressional staff
5/23/2013	Meeting request, Office of Rep. Hastings
5/23/2013	Meeting request, Office of Sen. Udall

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5/23/2013	Outreach to congressional staff
5/24/2013	Meeting request, Office of Sen. Durbin
5/24/2013	Outreach to reporters
5/28/2013	Outreach to congressional staff
5/29/2013	Outreach to reporters
5/30/2013	Meeting with Fred Turner, Helsinki Commission
5/30/2013	Outreach to congressional staff
5/30/2013	Outreach to reporters, Defense News
6/3/2013	Outreach to Offices of Sens. Durbin and Reid
6/3/2013	emails with Helsinki Commission
6/3/2013	Phone calls with reporters
6/4/2013	email with staff of Sen. Reid
6/4/2013	Outreach to reporters
6/5/2013	Meeting with Rep. Smith and Helsinki Commission staff
6/5/2013	Outreach to congressional staff
6/5/2013	Outreach to reporters
6/6/2013	Meetings with congressional offices
6/6/2013	Phone call with staff of Rep. Keating
6/6/2013	Outreach to reporters, Defense News
6/7/2013	Meeting with State Department officials
6/7/2013	Meeting with Alfred Gusenbauer
6/10/2013	email with staff of Sen. Durbin
6/10/2013	Outreach to congressional offices
6/10/2013	Outreach to reporters, Defense News
6/11/2013	Outreach to reporters
6/12/2013	Phone call with staff from House Energy & Commerce Committee
6/13/2013	Outreach to congressional staff
6/14/2013	Meeting request, Office of Sen. Durbin; Outreach to congressional offices
6/18/2013	Meeting with staff of Sen. Durbin
6/18/2013	Outreach to congressional staff
6/18/2013	Phone calls with congressional offices regarding meeting requests
6/19/2013	Outreach to State Department officials
6/19/2013	Phone calls and emails with congressional offices regarding meeting requests
6/20/2013	Phone calls and emails with congressional offices regarding meeting requests
6/21/2013	Outreach to Brookings Institution
6/21/2013	Outreach to OPIC
6/21/2013	Meeting requests with congressional offices
6/25/2013	Phone calls and emails with Brookings Institution
6/25/2013	Outreach to staff of Reps. Boustany, Ryan, and Johnson
6/28/2013	Outreach to Brookings Institution
6/28/2013	Meetings with congressional offices and think tanks

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6/27/2013	Meetings with State Department and OPIC officials
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Question 14(a)

Date	From Whom	Purpose	Amount
3/15/2013	European Centre for a Modern Ukraine	Fee	\$150,000

Question 15(a)

Date	Foreign Principal	Purpose	Amount
1/13 - 6/13	European Centre for a Modern Ukraine	Meals	\$798.27
1/13 - 6/13	European Centre for a Modern Ukraine	Office expenses	\$111.80
1/13 - 6/13	European Centre for a Modern Ukraine	Transportation/Travel	\$485.18

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SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING 12/31/2013

Question 9

European Centre for a Modern Ukraine

Question 11

The Registrant provided government relations and public relations services within the United States and Europe to promote political and economic cooperation between Ukraine and the West. The Registrant conducted outreach to congressional and executive branch offices, members of the media, nongovernmental organizations and think tanks.

Question 12

NOTE: In an effort to disclose its prior representation that ended three years ago, the Registrant has carefully reviewed its timekeeping records, which show that the firm performed the following work for the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine. Whenever possible, the names and offices of individuals contacted and the means of contact (email, phone call, meeting) have been listed, but in many instances those details are not in the firm's timekeeping records.

Date	Description of Activities
7/8/2013	Phone call with staff of Sen. Reid
7/23/2013	Email with staff of Sen. Reid
7/24/2013	Email with staff of Sen. Reid and Sen. Durbin
8/1/2013	Phone call with staff of Sen. Reid
8/1/2013	Outreach to State Department
8/27/2013	Outreach to State Department
8/28/2013	Email with staff of Sen. McCain
8/28/2013	Outreach to State Department
8/29/2013	Phone call with staff of Sen. McCain
8/31/2013	Email with staff of Sen. McCain
9/3/2013	Outreach to United States Trade Representative officials
9/9/2013	Outreach to State Department
9/10/2013	Outreach to United States Trade Representative officials
9/18/2013	email with staff of Sen. Durbin
9/27/2013	Outreach to congressional offices
9/30/2013	email with staff of Sen. Durbin
10/2/2013	Outreach to State Department officials
10/3/2013	Outreach to State Department officials
10/4/2013	Outreach to State Department officials
10/7/2013	Outreach to congressional offices and State Department officials
10/8/2013	Meetings with congressional offices

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10/9/2013	Outreach to Dan Harsha, Office of Rep. Engle
10/16/2013	email with staff of Sen. Cardin and Rep. Engle
10/17/2013	Outreach to congressional offices
10/18/2013	Outreach to congressional offices and State Department officials
10/21/2013	Outreach to congressional offices and State Department officials
10/22/2013	Meeting with staff of Sen. Cardin; outreach to congressional staff
10/23/2013	Outreach to congressional offices and State Department officials
10/29/2013	Outreach to staff of Rep. Engel
11/4/2013	Outreach to congressional offices
11/5/2013	email with staff of Sen. McCain
11/5/2013	Outreach to congressional offices and State Department officials
11/9/2013	Email with staff of Sen. McCain
11/12/2013	Outreach to staff of Rep. Engle
11/12/2013	Emails and phone calls with Doug Anderson, House Foreign Affairs Committee
11/13/2013	Outreach to staff of Rep. Engle
11/14/2013	email with staff of Sen. Reid
11/14/2013	Outreach to State Department officials
11/15/2013	email with staff of Sen. Reid
11/15/2013	Outreach to State Department officials and congressional offices
11/18/2013	email with staff of Sens. Reid and Durbin
11/18/2013	Outreach to State Department officials
11/19/2013	Outreach to congressional offices
11/20/2013	email with staff of Sen. Reid; outreach to congressional offices
11/21/2013	Outreach to congressional offices
11/22/2013	Outreach to congressional offices
12/3/2013	Outreach to congressional offices
12/4/2013	Meeting requests with congressional offices
12/5/2013	Outreach to congressional offices
12/9/2013	Meeting requests with congressional offices
12/10/2013	Phone call with staff of Helsinki Commission; Outreach to congressional offices
12/12/2013	email with staff of Helsinki Commission; Outreach to congressional offices
12/13/2013	Phone call with staff of Sen. Durbin
12/13/2013	Meeting with staff of Rep. Kaptur; Outreach to congressional offices
12/17/2013	Outreach to congressional offices
12/18/2013	Meeting and emails with staff of Senate Foreign Relations Committee

Question 14(a)

Date	From Whom	Purpose	Amount
9/4/2013	European Centre for a Modern Ukraine	Fee/Reimbursement	\$175,857.51
11/1/2013	European Centre for a Modern Ukraine	Fee/Reimbursement	\$195,857.51

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Question 15(a)

Date	Foreign Principal	Purpose	Amount
7/13 - 12/13	European Centre for a Modern Ukraine	Meals	\$57.40
7/13 - 12/13	European Centre for a Modern Ukraine	Office expenses	\$10.37
7/13 - 12/13	European Centre for a Modern Ukraine	Transportation/Travel	\$220.55

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SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING 6/30/2014

Question 7

Foreign Principal
European Centre for a Modern Ukraine

Date of Termination
4/30/14

Question 11

The Registrant provided government relations and public relations services within the United States and Europe to promote political and economic cooperation between Ukraine and the West. The Registrant conducted outreach to congressional and executive branch offices, members of the media, nongovernmental organizations and think tanks.

Question 12

NOTE: In an effort to disclose its prior representation that ended three years ago, the Registrant has carefully reviewed its timekeeping records, which show that the firm performed the following work for the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine. Whenever possible, the names and offices of individuals contacted and the means of contact (email, phone call, meeting) have been listed, but in many instances those details are not in the firm's timekeeping records.

Date	Description of Activities
1/28/2014	Outreach to congressional offices
1/29/2014	Outreach to congressional offices
1/30/2014	Outreach to congressional offices
1/31/2014	Outreach to congressional offices
2/3/2014	Meeting request with office of Rep. Kaptur; outreach to congressional offices
2/8/2014	Outreach to congressional offices
4/21/2014	Outreach to congressional offices

Question 14(a)

Date	From Whom	Purpose	Amount
3/13/2014	European Centre for a Modern Ukraine	Fee/Reimbursement	\$26,891.78
3/25/2014	European Centre for a Modern Ukraine	Fee/Reimbursement	\$136,479.04
4/16/2014	European Centre for a Modern Ukraine	Fee/Reimbursement	\$4,728.81
4/28/2014	European Centre for a Modern Ukraine	Fee/Reimbursement	\$4,739.23

Question 15(a)

Date	Foreign Principal	Purpose	Amount
1/14 - 4/14	European Centre for a Modern Ukraine	Office expenses	\$4.82
1/14 - 4/14	European Centre for a Modern Ukraine	Transportation/Travel	\$9.06

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Exhibit G

Media Coverage Regarding Mercury and the Podesta Group

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AP Sources: Manafort tied to undisclosed foreign lobbying

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By JEFF HORWITZ and
DESMOND BUTLER
Aug. 17, 2016

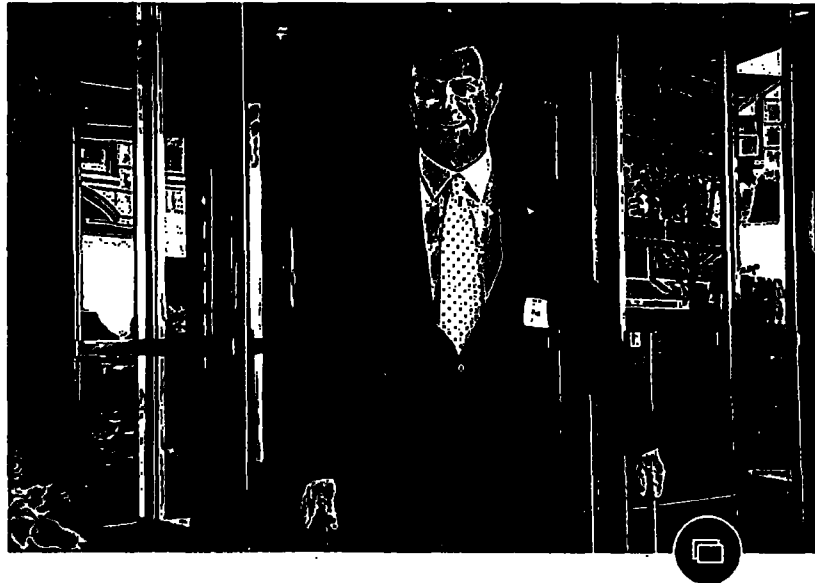


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WASHINGTON (AP) — Donald Trump's campaign chairman helped a pro-Russian governing party in Ukraine secretly route at least \$2.2 million in payments to two prominent Washington lobbying firms in 2012, and did so in a way that effectively obscured the foreign political party's efforts to influence U.S. policy.

The revelation, provided to The Associated Press by people directly knowledgeable about the effort, comes at a time when Trump has faced criticism for his friendly overtures to Russian President Vladimir Putin. It also casts new light on the business practices of campaign chairman Paul Manafort.

Under federal law, U.S. lobbyists must declare publicly if they represent foreign leaders or their political parties and provide detailed reports about their actions to the Justice Department. A violation is a felony and can result in up to five years in prison and a fine of up to \$250,000.

Trump shook up his campaign organization Wednesday, putting two new longtime Republican conservative strategists as chief executive officer and campaign manager. It was unclear what impact the shakeup would have on Manafort, but he retains his title as campaign chairman.

Manafort and business associate Rick Gates, another top strategist in Trump's campaign, were working in 2012 on behalf of the political party of Ukraine's then-president, Viktor Yanukovich.

People with direct knowledge of Gates' work said that, during the period when Gates and Manafort were consultants to the Ukraine president's political party, Gates was also helping steer the advocacy work done by a pro-Yanukovich nonprofit that hired a pair of Washington lobbying firms, Podesta Group Inc. and Mercury LLC.

The nonprofit, the newly created European Centre for a Modern Ukraine, was governed by a board that initially included parliament members from Yanukovich's party. The nonprofit subsequently paid at least \$2.2 million to the lobbying firms to advocate positions generally in line with those of Yanukovich's government.

That lobbying included downplaying the necessity of a congressional resolution meant to pressure the Ukrainian leader to release an imprisoned political rival.

The lobbying firms continued the work until shortly after Yanukovich fled the country in February 2014, during a popular revolt prompted in part by his government's crackdown on protesters and close ties to Russia.

Among those who described Manafort's and Gates's relationship with the nonprofit are current and former employees of the Podesta Group. Some of them spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to reveal details about the work and because they remain subject to non-disclosure agreements.

Gates told the AP that he and Manafort introduced the lobbying firms to the European Centre nonprofit and occasionally consulted with the firms on Ukrainian politics. He called the actions lawful, and said there was no attempt to circumvent the reporting requirements of the U.S. Foreign Agents Registration Act.

The heads of both lobbying firms told AP they concluded there was no obligation to disclose their activities to the Justice Department. Manafort did not directly respond to AP's requests to discuss the work, but he was copied on the AP's questions and Gates said he spoke to Manafort before providing answers to them.

Political consultants are generally leery of registering under the foreign agents law, because their reputations can suffer once they are on record as accepting money to advocate the interests of foreign governments — especially if those interests conflict with America's.

The foreign agent law is enforced by a relatively small division within the counter-espionage section of the Justice Department's National Security Division. Its powers are limited because it can't compel lobbying firms or others to turn over documents without a judge's approval, but investigators routinely monitor news reports for evidence of cases that raise suspicions about possible violations.

"They read the paper every day," said Matthew Miller, a former director of the Justice Department's public affairs division under Attorney General Eric Holder. "And if they see things that are potential FARA violations they send letters to the named parties."

Clinton's campaign manager, Robby Mook, did not urge an inquiry Wednesday, but said voters should scrutinize any links between Trump's staff and Russian political interests.

"Trump's own views and the Republican platform itself have notably backed Russian views and Russian policies," Mook said. "It paints a very disturbing picture and I think the voters need to pay a lot of attention to that."

The intent of using the two lobbying firms was unclear, but ironically, one of firms Manafort and Gates worked with has strong Democratic and Clinton ties.

The founder and chairman of the Podesta Group, Tony Podesta, is the brother of longtime Democratic strategist John Podesta, who now is campaign chairman for Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton. The head of Mercury, Vin Weber, is an influential Republican, former congressman and former special policy adviser to Mitt Romney. Weber announced earlier this month that he will not support Trump.

After being introduced to the lobbying firms, the European nonprofit paid the Podesta Group \$1.13 million between June 2012 and April 2014 to lobby Congress, the White House National Security Council,

the State Department and other federal agencies, according to U.S. lobbying records.

The nonprofit also paid \$1.07 million over roughly the same period to Mercury to lobby Congress. Among other issues, Mercury opposed congressional efforts to pressure Ukraine to release one of Yanukovich's political rivals from prison.

One former Podesta employee, speaking on condition of anonymity because of a non-disclosure agreement, said Gates described the nonprofit's role in an April, 2012 meeting as supplying a source of money that could not be traced to the Ukrainian politicians who were paying him and Manafort.

In separate interviews, three current and former Podesta employees said disagreements broke out within the firm over the arrangement, which at least one former employee considered obviously illegal. Podesta, who said the project was vetted by his firm's counsel, said he was unaware of any such disagreements.

A legal opinion drafted for the project for Mercury in May 2012, and obtained by AP, concluded that the European Centre qualified as a "foreign principal" under the Foreign Agents Registration Act but said disclosure to the Justice Department was not required. That determination was based on the nonprofit's assurances that none of its activities was directly or indirectly supervised, directed, controlled, financed or subsidized by Ukraine's government or any of the country's political parties.

The Podesta Group's CEO, Kimberley Fritts, said the two lobbying firms had coordinated on the legal conclusion that disclosure was not necessary to the Justice Department.

"If counsel had determined FARA was the way to go, we would have gladly registered under FARA," she said in a statement to the AP. She said the nonprofit provided a signed statement affirming its independence from Ukraine's government.

People involved in the lobbying project offered contradictory descriptions of how it came about.

Podesta told the AP his firm worked closely with the nonprofit and with Gates simultaneously. But Podesta said Gates was not working for Yanukovich's political party and said Manafort was not involved.

"I was never given any reason to believe Rick was a Party of Regions consultant," said John Ward Anderson, a current Podesta employee

who attended the meeting, in a statement provided by his firm. "My assumption was that he was working for the Centre, as we were."

Gates, in contrast, told AP he was working with Manafort and that both he and Manafort were working for Yanukovych's party.

Pointing to Manafort's involvement, Weber told AP that Manafort discussed the project before it began in a conference call with Podesta and himself.

The director of the European Centre, Ina Kirsch, told the AP her group never worked with Manafort or Gates and said the group hired the Washington lobbyists on its own. She said she had met with Manafort twice but said neither Manafort nor Gates played a role in its lobbying activities.

The center has declined for years to reveal specific sources of its funding.

Prosecutions under the Foreign Agents Registration Act are generally rare, although a former U.S. congressman, Mark Siljander, R-Mich., pleaded guilty in July 2010 to illegal lobbying under the law and obstruction of justice for his work with a charity in Khartoum, Sudan, that prosecutors said was suspected of funding international terrorism. Siljander served one year in prison.

Lobbyists in general prefer not to register under the foreign agents law because its requirements are so much more demanding, making their activities more open to public scrutiny.

The Justice Department, for example, requires those who register as lobbyists on behalf of foreign governments or parties to detail the home addresses of lobbyists and descriptions of all receipts, payments, political contributions and details about any lectures, emails, pamphlets or press releases they create.

Lobbying records filed in the U.S. Senate, in contrast, such as the ones describing payments to the Podesta Group and Mercury by the European Centre, are far less detailed.

The Justice Department's own published guidelines describe foreign political parties as covered under the law.

Associated Press writers Ted Bridis and Maria Danilova contributed to this story.



New registration details Manafort lobbying for group with pro-Russia ties

BY MEGAN R. WILSON - 04/28/17 03:39 PM EDT

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Paul Manafort attended four lobbying meetings with members of Congress and Washington organizations while advising a pro-Russia Ukrainian political party, according to new disclosure forms filed to the Justice Department on Friday.

The meetings were revealed in an 87-page disclosure obtained by The Hill that was filed by public affairs firm Mercury. Those forms retroactively register the firm as a foreign agent for work it did years ago.

Vin Weber, a partner at Mercury and former Republican congressman, brought Manafort to meetings with members of Congress, including one with former Rep. Jim Kolbe of Arizona, a board member at the International Republican Institute, in December 2012. He also brought Manafort to a meeting with Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (R-Calif.) in March 2013.

The filings detail the work Mercury did for the European Centre for Modern Ukraine, a Brussels-based nonprofit, from 2012 to 2014. Manafort had referred the client to Mercury and another Washington firm, Podesta Group. The Podesta Group filed its own retroactive foreign lobbying disclosures earlier this month.

While the European Centre for Modern Ukraine's stated goals include creating closer ties between the West and Ukraine, it has ties to the pro-

Russia Party of Regions in Ukraine, to which leader Viktor Yanukovich belonged before protests forced him out of the country.

It was known that Manafort introduced the Centre to K Street, and provided advice on Ukraine's politics, but the direct lobbying had not been previously reported. A spokesman for Manafort pushed back against the revelations

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lawmakers question...



National ad targets
Republicans on

"One meeting with one lawmaker connected to this topic in a two year period looks like incidental contact to fair-minded Americans," Jason Maloni told The Hill in an email. All the meetings, which also included former senior government officials at non-profits, happened on December 2012 or within March and April 2013.

Manafort, who advised the Party of Regions and Yanukovich for many years, later became President Trump's campaign chairman.

It's unclear how much the lobbying firms knew about Manafort's other clients.

"At that time, [Manafort] was widely recognized for his significant experience in Ukrainian politics and we felt his perspective would be meaningful in those few meetings," Mercury partner Michael McKeon told The Hill in an email on Friday.

"That was the extent of his involvement with us," he said.

The new disclosures are required under a law that was passed to combat Nazi propaganda during World War II, known as the Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA). The disclosure requirements are more stringent than domestic lobbying forms and include more information, including details like itemized meetings and phone calls.

Also in the filing is a flyer that the firm distributed, touting reforms to the voting process in Ukraine to make it more "free, fair and transparent." For example, one new rule increased the vote threshold a party is required to have before they could be admitted to parliament from 3 percent to 5 percent. Another nixed the option to "vote against all" on the ballot.

The new standards, the flyer reads, are in compliance with international electoral standards.

During the contract with Mercury, Manafort also attended meetings with Paula Dobriansky, a former State Department official during the Bush administration, a senior fellow at Harvard's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, and Nadia Diuk, a vice president at the National Endowment for Democracy.

The disclosures also detail all the other contacts Mercury made on behalf of the Centre, including reaching out to dozens of news outlets and meeting with government officials, staffers and lawmakers on Capitol Hill, think tanks and nonprofit organizations.

Manafort never worked for Mercury and had his own firm at the time, DMP International.

The documents also bring to light details first uncovered by The Associated Press last August about what Manafort did to influence U.S. policy toward Ukraine and Russia.

New registration details Manafort's lobbying for group with pro-Russia ties | TheHill

His relationships with pro-Russia figures and work in the Trump campaign have been central to the controversy swirling around accusations that Russia meddled in the U.S. presidential election in Trump's favor.

Similar filings by Manafort could be forthcoming, his spokesman told The Hill earlier this month.

Even before the 2016 elections, Manafort "has been in discussions with federal authorities about the advisability of registering under FARA for some of his past political work," said spokesman Jason Maloni.

"Mr. Manafort received formal guidance recently from the authorities and he is taking appropriate steps in response to the guidance."

Violating FARA is considered a felony, though only a handful of prosecutions have been pursued since the law's formation. It is considered a compliance-based statute, so even filling out registration paperwork late can get firms and individuals out of trouble with the Justice Department. FARA is more broad than the LDA, and covers consulting and public relations efforts, in addition to traditional lobbying.

Mercury and the Podesta Group had been registered for the Centre under the Lobbying Disclosure Act, which dictates domestic lobbying disclosure. The two firms made a total of \$2.2 million during the two years of work.

Both firms had signed statements from the Centre, saying that it received no funds or support from a foreign government or party — something lawyers advised the firms would preclude them from registering under FARA.

However, following a series of AP reports that included details about how Manafort and his associate Rick Gates directed strategy while operating as advisers for the Party of Regions, the firms have decided to register with the Justice Department retroactively.

Updated at 5:55 p.m.

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May 11, 2017

DOJ Deflects Calls for More Foreign Agents Act Transparency



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nation's capital, the states, and around the world. This daily news service...

By Kenneth P. Doyle

The Department of Justice largely has turned aside calls for greater transparency of its advice on whether U.S. lobbyists for foreign interests are covered by the Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA), an 80-year-old law aimed at letting the public know about foreign influence on U.S. politics.

The department recently posted online brief summaries of three past advisory opinions issued under the foreign agents' law, a DOJ spokeswoman told Bloomberg BNA May 10. The department has indicated no plans for further action on the matter despite calls from watchdog groups and the DOJ's own inspector general to consider making all FARA advisory opinions public.

The summarized advisory opinions, issued to unnamed recipients, point out the need to register under FARA for lobbying on behalf of a local jurisdiction of a foreign government or a foreign tourist agency. One of the advisories points out that legal representation of a foreign government in a lawsuit doesn't require FARA registration, unless lobbying is also involved.

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Meanwhile, other, more complex questions about who must register under the law have increased. High-profile advocates, including retired Lt. Gen. Michael Flynn, President Donald Trump's former national security adviser, recently filed disclosures under FARA revealing past work for foreign governments or political parties.

Flynn filed a registration in March revealing his work last year as a foreign agent representing the interests of the government of Turkey, resulting in payments of more than \$500,000. According to news reports, Flynn may be under investigation by the DOJ for failing to comply earlier with the foreign agents law, as well as for possible contacts with Russia.

**Ukraine Advocacy Disclosed
Late Under FARA**

Flynn's consulting firm, Flynn Intel Group, had registered last year under the Lobbying Disclosure Act

(LDA) regarding its advocacy work but said at that time that it was working for a private company based in the Netherlands, called Inovo BV, not the Turkish government.

Registration under the LDA can be used to preclude the requirement to register under FARA. Lobbyists frequently opt to register under the lobbying law, rather than FARA, if legally permitted, because of the LDA's less onerous disclosure requirements.

In addition, two major Washington, D.C., consulting firms, the Podesta Group Inc. and Mercury Public Affairs LLC, filed FARA registrations last month regarding work they did in 2012 related to Ukraine. The registrations followed news reports in recent months that the Ukraine advocacy work was arranged by another former Trump adviser, Paul Manafort, and that the arrangement may have been intended to avoid revealing the involvement of a pro-Russia Ukrainian political party, which was seeking to improve its image with U.S. officials.

The Podesta Group is headed by Tony Podesta, a veteran Democratic lobbyist who is the brother of John Podesta, Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign manager. The Mercury Public Affairs Washington office is headed by former Rep. Vin Weber (R-

Minn.), a veteran Republican lobbyist. The two firms reported being paid more than \$1 million each for their Ukraine-related work.

Grassley Pressed DOJ on Registrations

Like Flynn's firm, Podesta Group and Mercury Public Affairs had filed registrations under the LDA for the same work they later disclosed under FARA. The filings under the lobbying law said the firms were working for a Brussels-based nonprofit called the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine (ECFMU), which provided assurances that it wasn't controlled or funded by a foreign government or political party.

Manafort was Trump's campaign manager but resigned under a cloud last summer after the first reports about his involvement in advocacy efforts related to Ukraine's former President Viktor Yanukovich, who favored close ties with Russia. Yanukovich was forced out of office in 2014 by street protests. Afterwards, Russia backed an armed uprising in eastern Ukraine and then annexed Crimea.

Manafort hasn't registered separately as a foreign agent for the Ukraine-related work, but he was listed in the new FARA disclosure documents filed by Mercury Public

Affairs as participating in meetings along with Weber. The two met in 2012 and 2013 with Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (R-Calif.), former Rep. Jim Kolbe (R-Ariz.) and others, the disclosure said.

The Justice Department hasn't said publicly whether it provided advice to Flynn, the Podesta Group, or Mercury regarding their obligations to register under FARA.

Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Charles Grassley (R-Iowa), who has criticized the DOJ for failing to aggressively enforce the foreign agents law, wrote to DOJ last month, citing the reports about Ukraine-related advocacy work by Manafort, his business associate, Rick Gates, and the two firms, Podesta Group and Mercury Public Affairs. Grassley asked the DOJ whether this work was required to be disclosed under FARA and whether DOJ's FARA office had sent letters of inquiry or provided advisory opinions on the matter.

'Constructive Consultation'

A spokesman for Grassley couldn't be reached for comment about the DOJ's response to the senator's letter, but the FARA registrations by the Podesta Group and Mercury Public Affairs were filed shortly after the letter was sent to the department.

David Marin, a managing principal at the Podesta Group, told Bloomberg BNA in a May 10 email that the firm originally had registered under the LDA because its client, the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine, certified that it was not controlled or funded by a foreign government or party. "Years have passed since we ended our relationship with the Centre, but information brought to light in recent months prompted us to review our original registration determination," Marin said. "We believe the LDA registration was appropriate for our particular work on the Centre's behalf. However, we also understand after constructive consultation with FARA Unit staff that their position, which is based on all the information available to them, is that the overall representation is now better classified as a FARA registration."

The Podesta Group "reclassified its previous LDA registration for the Centre to a FARA registration," Marin said. The firm routinely has filed FARA registrations for other clients and would not hesitate to do so in the future to "underscore our commitment to transparency," he added.

"We appreciate the FARA Unit staff's assistance in this matter," Marin said.

Public Pressure

Grassley and other DOJ critics have said for years that FARA disclosure requirements aren't being adequately enforced by the DOJ and that the only real pressure to comply with the law is the public attention drawn when foreign advocacy is revealed in news reports.

The DOJ inspector general's report issued last year included 14 specific recommendations for improving enforcement of the foreign agents law, led by the call to make FARA advisory opinions public in order to help inform advocates when they're required to register under FARA.

Although that recommendation has now been closed, according to DOJ, other inspector general recommendations still being considered include a call to develop a "comprehensive strategy for enforcement and administration of FARA."

Another recommendation calls for a formal assessment of the exemption from FARA disclosure for those who register under the LDA. The inspector general's report said DOJ had agreed to perform a study of the LDA waiver and other exemptions from FARA disclosure and that a determination of the need for and viability of possible legislative changes would be made by June 30.

Watchdogs Call for Action

Outside watchdog groups have made similar calls for FARA improvements for years, arguing that both the Justice Department and Congress could make changes to provide more information about foreign influence but haven't.

Written testimony submitted last month to the House Appropriations Committee by representatives of several nonprofit groups cited findings by the DOJ's inspector general that the rate of compliance with FARA is "unacceptable."

Disclosure documents routinely are submitted late and some lobbyists for foreign interests simply stop their submission of required documentation entirely.

The watchdog groups noted that the inspector general found that:

- 62 percent of new FARA registrants from 2013-2015 filed their registration documents late;
- 50 percent of registrants failed to file in a timely manner their supplemental statements describing their activities, as required every six months;
- 61 percent of informational materials reviewed were not filed on time; and
- 47 percent did not include the required disclosure statement indicating the materials were

distributed on behalf of a foreign client.

'Left in the Dark'

"What these numbers show is that the system clearly isn't working," the watchdog group said. "As a result, the public is left in the dark about how U.S. policies are being influenced."

One of those submitting the testimony, Lydia Dennett at the nonprofit Project On Government Oversight, told Bloomberg BNA in a phone interview that the main problem with FARA compliance is that the DOJ lacks appropriate enforcement tools, such as the ability to assess fines, in order to ensure compliance with the law.

Department officials are faced with the difficult task of having to file a criminal case and prove corrupt intent in order to enforce the law. Instead, they usually opt for trying to achieve "voluntary compliance" with the law, Dennett said.

The DOJ has brought only seven criminal FARA cases in the last 50 years, according to the DOJ's inspector general. The department also has the ability to seek injunctive relief to achieve compliance with the law but hasn't done so since 1991.

Daniel Schuman of the nonprofit Demand Progress said in a separate

phone interview that the FARA office, which is focused on public disclosure, is a "red-haired stepchild" in the DOJ's National Security Division, which is mainly focused on secret counter-intelligence and counterterrorism work and on dealing with other high-profile threats to American security.

The FARA office is short of staff and other resources and hasn't made simple changes that could be made to improve the usability of the data that it does collect, Schuman said, attributing the problems to bureaucratic inertia and lack of sustained interest from Congress.

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Exhibit H

DCCC Targets Press Release

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To: Interested Parties
FR: Dan Sena, DCCC Executive Director
DT: January 30, 2017
RE: House Democrats Playing Offense

House Democrats are starting the 2018 election cycle on offense. Republican incumbents across the country are damaged after unexpectedly close 2016 contests, dozens find themselves defending seats where Donald Trump is already deeply unpopular, and together the House Republicans and Trump Administration are pushing a wildly unpopular agenda that threatens their standing from the Rust Belt to the Sun Belt.

The American people have repeatedly organized this month in peaceful marches to resist the Trump Administration and the Republican vision for our country, from their plan to repeal the Affordable Care Act without a replacement, to a tax-payer funded Mexican border wall and this weekend's dangerous Muslim ban. This widespread backlash will only grow as Trump and House Republicans continue to ignore this loud chorus from their constituents, who so clearly oppose what this Republican-controlled Washington D.C. has to offer.

The DCCC has and will continue to harness this organic energy on the ground, through unprecedented grassroots engagement and digital fundraising, aggressive earned and paid-media accountability, and recruiting in a smart, expanded battlefield that takes lessons from the previous election.

REPUBLICANSON DEFENSE

History Isn't On Their Side:

- ❑ Since 1900, there are only three examples of the president's party gaining seats in the first midterm (2002 (George W. Bush), 1934 (Franklin D. Roosevelt) and 1902 (Teddy Roosevelt)).
- ❑ In modern history- since 1982- the president's party has lost an average 28 seats in the first midterm election, even accounting for Republican gains in 2002 under President Bush.

President Trump's Historic Unpopularity:

- ❑ In all midterms over last 23 years, the sitting president has needed a net-positive job approval in the double-digits in order to stave off losses.
- ❑ According to a new Quinnipiac University Poll conducted over Donald Trump's first five days as President only 36% of voters approve of his job performance.
- ❑ Trump has reached majority disapproval (Gallup Poll) in a record-shattering 8 days.

Deeply Unpopular Agenda:

- ❑ On policy, House Republicans are taking the wrong lessons from 2016: kowtowing to Trump's most divisive policies like his border wall, while opposing him on popular plans to preserve Medicare or action on trade.
- ❑ The Republican plan to repeal the Affordable Care Act is deeply unpopular, and will continue to create political backlash across the country.
- ❑ Republican attacks on Medicare, Social Security and Planned Parenthood, and efforts to gut ethics and transparency safeguards will have repercussions at the ballot box.

DEMOCRATSON OFFENSE

BREAKING NEWS: The DCCC added 635,000 new grassroots supporters since January 1st - a 20 percent growth of the Committee's entire list in one month. Almost half of these new supporters joined during the weekend of Donald Trump's inauguration and the Women's March.

The DCCC has raised approximately \$3.2 million from grassroots supporters in January, with an average gift of \$17. These are the Committee's most successful January digital fundraising numbers.

The Battlefield:

In 2018, the DCCC will build on the innovative strategies and battle-tested tactics that allowed House Democrats to defy historical trends and gain six seats while protecting nearly every incumbent, despite Republicans winning the White House in 2016.

The DCCC will initially focus on an expanded battlefield that includes, but is not limited to:

- ☐ 23 seats that House Republicans hold, that Hillary Clinton won
 - Of those seats, Republicans hold 7 that President Obama never won – indicating a potential Trump-driven problem for these Republicans
- ☐ 10 seats that House Republicans won and Hillary Clinton narrowly lost (by 4 points or less)
- ☐ Open seats that we anticipate to occur with regularity this cycle, as House Republicans take Administration positions, run for other offices, or retire altogether.

DCCC Targets - Round One:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ☐ AL-02 – Martha Roby | ☐ MN-03 – Erik Paulsen |
| ☐ AR-02 – French Hill | ☐ NC-08 – Richard Hudson |
| ☐ AZ-02 – Martha McSally | ☐ NC-09 – Robert Pittenger |
| ☐ CA-10 – Jeff Denham | ☐ NC-13 – Ted Budd |
| ☐ CA-21 – David Valadao | ☐ NE-02 – Don Bacon |
| ☐ CA-25 – Steve Knight | ☐ NJ-02 – Frank LoBiondo |
| ☐ CA-39 – Ed Royce | ☐ NJ-03 – Tom MacArthur |
| ☐ CA-45 – Mimi Walters | ☐ NJ-07 – Leonard Lance |
| ☐ CA-48 – Dana Rohrabacher | ☐ NJ-11 – Rodney Frelinghuysen |
| ☐ CA-49 – Darrell Issa | ☐ NY-01 – Lee Zeldin |
| ☐ CO-03 – Scott Tipton | ☐ NY-11 – Dan Donovan |
| ☐ CO-06 – Mike Coffman | ☐ NY-19 – John Faso |
| ☐ FL-18 – Brian Mast | ☐ NY-22 – Claudia Tenney |
| ☐ FL-25 – Mario Diaz-Balart | ☐ NY-24 – John Katko |
| ☐ FL-26 – Carlos Curbelo | ☐ NY-27 – Chris Collins |
| ☐ FL-27 – Ileana Ros-Lehtinen | ☐ OH-01 – Steve Chabot |
| ☐ GA-06 – Tom Price | ☐ OH-07 – Bob Gibbs |
| ☐ IA-01 – Rod Blum | ☐ PA-06 – Ryan Costello |
| ☐ IA-03 – David Young | ☐ PA-07 – Pat Meehan |
| ☐ IL-06 – Peter Fisk | ☐ PA-08 – Brian Fitzpatrick |
| ☐ IL-13 – Rodney Davis | ☐ PA-16 – Lloyd Smucker |
| ☐ IL-14 – Randy Hultgren | ☐ TX-07 – John Culberson |
| ☐ KS-02 – Lynn Jenkins | ☐ TX-23 – Will Hurd |
| ☐ KS-03 – Kevin Yoder | ☐ TX-32 – Pete Sessions |
| ☐ KY-06 – Andy Barr | ☐ VA-02 – Scott Taylor |
| ☐ ME-02 – Bruce Poliquin | ☐ VA-10 – Barbara Comstock |
| ☐ MI-07 – Tim Walberg | ☐ WA-03 – Jaime Herrera Beutler |
| ☐ MI-08 – Mike Bishop | ☐ WA-08 – David Reichert |
| ☐ MI-11 – Dave Trotter | ☐ WV-02 – Alex Mooney |
| ☐ MN-02 – Jason Lewis | |